NEW QUESTIONS ABOUT MOOCS

THE VIETNAM WAR: 50 YEARS LATER

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PRINCETON
ALUMNI WEEKLY

PRINCETON WOMEN ARE PERFECT

On the court: 30–0

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Community Service Project
Princeton University has a long tradition of linking a service project to a major reunion, in the spirit of Princeton’s informal motto, In the Nation’s Service and In the Service of All Nations.

This year, the APGA will be participating in the Class of 1990’s Community Service Project, along with the classes of ’80, ’95, ’00, and ’15, packaging meals for children and families in need in partnership with Kids Against Hunger Coalition (KAHC). Please consider putting aside an hour or two in your reunions weekend schedule with your family to join us at Dillon Gym on Friday between 9:30 am and 1:30 pm for this hands-on event!

Connect with the APGA
Facebook: Facebook.com/PrincetonGraduateAlumni
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Hey, Graduate Alumni!

Reunions weekend, scheduled for Thursday, May 28 – Sunday, May 31, is more than just a great party. Check out some of these weekend highlights:

Alumni Panel Discussions
Graduate alumni share their perspectives on topics of global policy importance - the future of drones in America and the current state of human trafficking.

Departmental Gatherings
Many departments welcome their graduate alumni back during Reunions, with most gatherings taking place on Friday afternoon.

Meals with Fellow Graduate Alumni
Graduate alumni and guests congregate for APGA meals that include some of the best food at Reunions featuring Emily’s Café & Catering! Current graduate students are invited to Saturday’s meals.

Family-Friendly Activities
So much of Reunions is family friendly, including many performances, tours, demonstrations, and fireworks! The APGA’s Saturday lunch will feature a giant inflatable slide, face painting, and more!

Live Performances
Indulge in the joy of live music! Join APGA for nightly entertainment with graduate student DJs on Thursday; world-class party band Atomic Funk Project on Friday; and The Classix on Saturday. As always, many of Princeton’s theater and musical groups will show off their talents as well.

Make the APGA Headquarters your home during Reunions weekend and join us in celebrating The Woodrow Wilson School through our theme Woody Woo Wants You! Visit the APGA’s website for a full listing of educational activities and entertainment. SAVE MONEY and register online by May 8, 2015.

Register today: http://alumni.princeton.edu/apga/reunions/2015

After-Party at the DBar!
Take a stroll down memory lane with The After-Party at the DBar at the Graduate College from midnight to 2 am Thursday night/Friday morning.

Art for Art’s Sake
On Saturday, view Samira Abbassy's work in the Bernstein Gallery of Robertson Hall. Enjoy a continental breakfast and mimosas.

And of course…
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PRINCETON ALUMNI WEEKLY

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A Physicist in Hollywood
The science in the film Interstellar won rave reviews. For that, you can thank Kip Thorne ’65.
By Mark F. Bernstein ’83

A War’s Legacy
Fifty years after LBJ dramatically increased U.S. involvement in Vietnam, a historian considers how the war is still with us.
By Julian E. Zelizer

PRinceton Alumni weekly

On the cover: Alex Wheatley ’16, as women’s basketball completes a perfect season; photograph by Beverly Schaefer
The Future of Princeton’s Graduate School

As graduate education is one of the key areas of exploration in our University-wide strategic planning process, I have invited Sanjeev Kulkarni — who assumed the deanship of the Graduate School one year ago — to offer his perspectives on the school’s importance and our efforts to plan for its future. — C.L.E.

Graduate education at Princeton has a long and storied history, and it is an integral component of our teaching and research mission. The Graduate School is vitally important to Princeton as the University seeks to educate leaders and pursue scholarship that will matter in the 21st century.

President Eisgruber has charged the Task Force on the Future of the Graduate School, which I chair, to identify strengths, weaknesses, challenges, and opportunities for the school, and to make recommendations to help guide its directions. As I am very passionate about graduate education and its impact on our University and our society, I am grateful for the efforts of the faculty, students, staff, and alumni who have provided and continue to provide valuable perspectives throughout our ongoing self-study and planning process.

To better understand the directions graduate education at Princeton may take, it is helpful to appreciate how it has evolved. James Madison famously became Princeton’s first graduate student in 1771, when he elected to stay on campus for post-graduate study in Hebrew. Graduate study was offered in a few disciplines by the late 19th century, leading to the formal establishment of the Graduate School in 1900. The emergence of a broad graduate program transformed Princeton from a college into a full-fledged university. This, along with the massive reshaping of undergraduate education under President Woodrow Wilson 1879 in the early 20th century, raised Princeton’s stature among the world’s finest scholarly institutions.

Today, Princeton’s Graduate School is distinctive in several ways. We have a tradition of excellence across all of our academic divisions — the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, and engineering. Our 42 graduate degree-granting departments and programs emphasize doctoral education, with final master’s programs offered in select fields. Unlike many of our peer institutions, we do not have traditional professional schools — this helps us to maintain the relatively small size of our graduate student body (about 2,600) and foster an intimate sense of community.

Our size also enables us to pursue systematic growth in existing fields or new research areas, while maintaining a highly selective approach to graduate admissions. This allows us to enroll brilliant emerging scholars who become true partners with our faculty in creating new knowledge. Our graduate students are future leaders in academia and all fields, as evidenced by the wide-ranging influence our graduate alumni have had on the world — from public service to entrepreneurship, from the arts to science and engineering. The high quality of our graduate students, in turn, helps us attract distinguished faculty across the disciplines and maintain our strong international reputation. As Professor of Chemistry David MacMillan has said, “Graduate students are the fuel for the research engine.”

Graduate students have important relationships with undergraduates in our tight-knit academic and residential community. They serve as teachers and mentors in classrooms and laboratories, and some live among undergraduates in our residential colleges through the Resident Graduate Student program that launched in 2007. Graduate students often also form the bridge between undergraduate and faculty research.

For these and many other reasons, the vitality of our Graduate School is critical to the thriving future of our University. But a number of important questions are involved in charting the course for our Graduate School in its second century. Along with other research universities, we are grappling with the effects of diminished government research funding that provides significant support for graduate student work in the sciences and engineering. We must consider how to best use our resources to enhance our programs in traditional disciplines and ensure that we can seize opportunities to expand into new fields as needed. We need to think about how to best prepare graduate students for careers inside and outside the academy. And we also must continue to strengthen our campus community by improving our ability to attract and support talented students from underrepresented backgrounds, to enhance connections between graduate and undergraduate students, and to engage graduate alumni more deeply in the life of the University.

I have been fortunate to meet with hundreds of alumni over the past year on campus and around the country, and to hear their valuable perspectives on the importance of the Graduate School to Princeton’s mission. The sentiments shared clearly convey the tremendous impact that the Princeton graduate experience has had on so many lives. This has been very heartening, and our aim is to ensure that we provide an outstanding and distinctively Princeton experience to future generations of graduate students. I encourage all alumni—graduate or undergraduate—to visit the strategic planning website at www.princeton.edu/strategicplan and share your feedback on the work of our task force.

And for those of you who plan to attend Reunions in May, please stop by the Association of Princeton Graduate Alumni (APGA) tent for some fun and fellowship. Look for this year’s theme — “Woody Woo Wants You!” — in the Cuyler Courtyard. I hope to see you there!

Graduate School Dean Sanjeev Kulkarni

PAW PROVIDES THESE PAGES TO PRESIDENT CHRISTOPHER L. EISGRUBER '83
A CALM, CONFIDENT LEADER

I didn’t know Dr. Bruce Ribner ’66 (cover story, March 4) when we were at Princeton, nor did I know that Bruce was a fellow Princetonian on the occasions we worked together when I was an intern and he a resident at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York.

When the first cases of Ebola arrived in the United States, Bruce’s team at Emory performed heroically in the nation’s service. Bruce imparted a level-headed, rational, scientific approach at a time when hysteria on the part of political figures, the press, and public was running rampant. Unfortunately, government officials in the absence of a surgeon general and any pretense of a unified voice issued disjointed and contradictory communications. The CDC also was less than completely prepared and drafted inadequate and confusing treatment and prevention recommendations.

Providing calm, confident leadership and a “we can do this” attitude under those circumstances goes a long way.

My congratulations to Bruce and his team. Having been involved in hospital administration for part of my career, I can only imagine the institutional battles he faced over the years to achieve the support and funding to be ready for “the call.”

Rick Greenwald ’67
Highland Beach, Fla.

1965’S FINAL FOUR TEAM

“March Memories” (Sports, March 4) brought back many of them. After live broadcasting Tiger basketball on WPRB (with Sean Sloane ’64 and Marv Shapiro ’64) for three years, we graduated in 1964, having witnessed student athletes at their best. Sneaking away from Berkeley Law, I was lucky enough to attend the Final Four in Portland in 1965 and not only remember Bill Bradley’s 58 points, but can — after all these years — vividly picture his corner hook shot, just as Ed Hummer ’67 describes it. I still have some 50-year-old reel-to-reel tapes of a couple of the basketball broadcasts and a lengthy interview with Coach van Breda Kolff. As Bob Hope would say, thanks for the (March) memories.

Ken Goldman ’64
Beverly Hills, Calif.

The article in PAW brings back great memories. I was a first-year law school student at Stanford that year and followed Princeton basketball closely. The Providence game stunned me with the final 109–69 score. My classmate, Dave Bryant, and I immediately called a friend on campus to see if he could get us tickets to the game in Portland. He succeeded, but only after swearing in writing that the tickets were for his immediate family. Another classmate, Jim Randlett, joined us for the trip north. We had great seats right at mid-court for both games. The highlight, of course, was Bradley’s 58 points. He received a thunderous ovation when he left the court and was named Most Outstanding Player, narrowly beating out Gail Goodrich of champion UCLA, who scored “only” 42. It was a great experience, and the only regret is that Princeton didn’t play up to its potential against Michigan.

Steve Beckwith ’64
New York, N.Y.

I’ll never forget that hook shot from the corner. Great to be on campus for the Bradley years.

John Henderson ’68
Solon, Ohio

Danny Gregory ’82 believes that art can make people “saner and happier,” and his new book, Art Before Breakfast, shows readers how to add creativity to their lives with drawing activities that require just a few minutes each day. Read about authors like Gregory every Friday at paw.princeton.edu/blog.
Summer Programs 2015

A Guide to Summer Programs, Camps and Preparatory Schools

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THE CASE FOR DIVESTMENT
The March 4 issue included four letters critical of the divestment petition, signed by more than 70 current and retired faculty members, urging the University to “divest from all companies that contribute to or profit from the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and continued siege of Gaza.” I am one of the signatories of that petition. I write in my personal capacity and do not claim to represent or reflect all signatories.

The letters differ in content and length, but the suggestion, explicit or implicit, is that we, the signatories, are hostile to Israel and wish its destruction. Stephen Tauber ’68 accuses us of “rank anti-Semitism.”

Why did I sign this petition? The occupation of the West Bank is now nearly 48 years old. In 1967 the U.S., along with all other members of the U.N. Security Council, approved U.N. Resolution 242, calling for Israeli withdrawal from territories occupied as a result of the fighting in June 1967. That is still the policy of the U.S. government.

The petition I signed is premised on the proposition that Israeli settlements in territories occupied in 1967 are illegal. That, too, is the policy of the U.S. government. I personally am convinced that under Likud leadership, Israel has no intention of halting, let alone dismantling, civilian settlements in the West Bank. It could reasonably be argued that I and the other signatories should focus our attention on the U.S. government. I agree, but given the track record of the last 48 years, I have concluded I may be more effective within a community where I have some voice, i.e., the Princeton community.

Despite what is stated in some of the letters, the faculty signatories do not claim that the Palestinians are angels, that Israel is not a democracy, that by ceasing its occupation of the West Bank peace will break out. We focus on businesses that are profiting from the occupation. By doing so they condone what I and the U.S. government regard as illegal activity. Princeton should not be a party, directly or indirectly, to this lamentable situation.

Finally, it is suggested that we are picking on Israel when so many other...
Inbox

countries violate human rights and abuse their populations. Well, yes, we are focusing on Israel because it receives the greatest level of military, technological, and diplomatic support of any country with which the U.S. is engaged. Our support has underwritten Israel’s ability to maintain its occupation even though the U.S. government professes that it wants to see an end to that occupation.

John Waterbury ’61
Professor emeritus of politics and international affairs
Princeton University

What do you think? How many more people would be willing to support Israel if it simply stopped building settlements on Palestinian territory?

Roland Zimany ’58
Urbandale, Iowa

SEEKING SUSTAINABLE INVESTING

The Princeton Sustainable Investment Initiative (PSII) has developed a proposal that would reduce the impact of the University endowment on climate change (story, page 13). You can read the proposal and sign the petition at www.princetonsustainableinvestment.org.

PSII is aligned with fossil-fuel divestment campaigns underway at universities, pension funds, and endowed civil-society organizations across the country. However, PSII’s approach is unique in calling for a representative committee to define a long-term plan for making Princeton’s endowment more sustainable. Divestment is just one possible tool among many. Notable faculty, including renowned climate scientist Michael Oppenheimer and ethicist Peter Singer, along with 1,000 students, support the effort.

The scientific foundation of climate change is undisputable. Investments benefiting our own community must also consider detrimental impacts we might have on others — particularly the poor, who will be disproportionately affected by climate pollution.

As University donors and stewards — and as leaders in business, policy, and education — it is our moral duty as alumni to demand investment in line with our values. Princeton’s $21 billion endowment is the largest per-student of any university. Though a drop in the global-equity market, the University’s investment leadership will be a watershed moment for institutions around the globe.

As you read this, Princeton students, faculty, and alumni are working feverishly to understand and mitigate the causes and consequences of climate change. Surprisingly, we have yet to act on one of the most achievable goals — updating our investment policies.

I encourage you to support PSII’s effort by signing the petition, and sharing your opinions directly with the administration and the University community.

Nathan Ratledge *14
Warrenton, Va.

STALIN’S RULE IN PERSPECTIVE

I am surprised Professor Stephen Kotkin has concluded that “Stalin’s rule will never be seen as irredeemable like Hitler’s” (Life of the Mind, March 4). He
FROM THE EDITOR

Legacy of a War

This is a year of golden anniversaries of events that changed the nation: President Lyndon Johnson’s first address about a Great Society; passage of the Voting Rights Act; deadly unrest in Watts, which soon would spread from Los Angeles to other cities. It is also half a century since the United States greatly expanded its involvement in the Vietnam War. At Princeton this year, there have been two student theater productions relating to the war.

Today’s Princeton students may view the war with academic interest; for those of an earlier generation, the anniversary is more personal. A Princeton chapter of Students for a Democratic Society was created in the fall of 1965, the Princeton Draft Resistance Union in 1967. Campus activism relating to Vietnam became more intense as the war came nearer, in 1968, when LBJ restricted graduate draft deferments.

On May 6, 1969, PAW published a black-bordered page (at left) with photographs of seven young alumni who had died in the war. It was, PAW said, only “a tentative list.”

In an essay on page 30, Professor Julian Zelizer points out that in many ways, the war has never ended. He was referring to government decision-making, but as Merrell Noden ’78 wrote in a PAW article in 2005, it’s true in other ways. Noden spoke to alumni who fought in the war or chose not to. “Not a day goes by that I don’t think about it,” John Gore ’68, who served 366 days in Vietnam, told him. Ultimately, 24 Princetonians died, losses that linger in 24 families. Another, Dick Gratton ’68, died decades after his two tours, Noden wrote, “by his own hand ... surely a casualty of that war, one of those who saw too much too soon.” — Marilyn H. Marks ’86

Carl H. Middleton ’60
Arlington, Va.

WE’D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU
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Letters should not exceed 250 words and may be edited for length, accuracy, clarity, and civility. Due to space limitations, we are unable to publish all letters received in the print magazine. Letters, articles, photos, and comments submitted to PAW may be published in print, electronic, or other forms.

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Some choose Princeton for the beauty of its campus or the quality of its faculty. Owen Garrick ’90 chose Princeton for a very different reason: the absence of his big sister. He smiles, “I had no interest in being the kid brother on the campus at Brown!”

Yet before his high school graduation, Owen learned another excellent reason to choose Princeton: the extraordinary engagement of its alumni. In the first two minutes of the admitted students reception he attended, an alumnus offered him a summer job. It was his first alumni experience and, he now notes, “it was the quintessential alumni experience.”

Following that summer job, Owen went on to have four “great” years at Princeton, majoring in Psychology. The next eight years were busy, with two years out in the “business side” of healthcare, then six years going to Yale Medical School and Wharton Business School, receiving both his MD and MBA degrees in 1998. With degrees completed, Owen threw himself with gusto into the world of alumni volunteering.

He has been fully engaged ever since, from his first Alumni Careers mentoring on Long Island to his Alumni Schools Committee interviewing today in Oakland, CA, where he now lives and is President and COO of Bridge Clinical Research. He has led fundraising efforts for his class and has sat on both the Annual Giving National Committee and the Connect Steering Committee. And he is a P-rade marshal of many years standing (or is that marching).

For the past three years, Owen has been serving on the Committee to Nominate Alumni Trustees, this year chairing the committee. “What a fantastic experience! I am awed by the alumni I’ve met who are doing critical, life-changing work,” he enthuses. “And also what a profound responsibility: to help create a ballot of exceptional alumni who will play such a large part in the life of the University.” He pauses. “What a journey, from that first alumni job offer to helping ensure the future health of the University. I am honored.”
Neary 115 years ago, in October of 1900, Princeton’s Board of Trustees adopted a Plan to ensure alumni representation on the University’s board. At that time, the board added five alumni trustees, one of whom was elected. The Board has amended the Plan for elected trustees several times over the course of the decades, designating Regional and At-Large ballots, adding two Graduate Alumni ballots, and creating the position of Young Alumni Trustee. Now 13 of the 40 trustees on Princeton’s board are alumni who have been elected to their positions. Four of these are Young Alumni Trustees, elected by the junior and senior classes and the two most recent graduated classes. The other nine have gone through a nomination and election process overseen by the volunteer committee known as the Committee to Nominate Alumni Trustees (CTNAT), a Special Committee of the Alumni Council.

Below are the two ballots for the 2015 Alumni Trustee election. Polls will be open until May 20. For more information go to: http://alumni.princeton.edu/volunteer/committees/ctnat/trustee/
Dear Princetonians:

Continuing with your Alumni Association’s overarching two-year theme of CHEER (Celebrate, Honor, Embrace, Engage and Recognize), this page reflects some of the many ways we ENGAGE our more than 90,000 alumni in Princeton-related activities, both on orange and black turf and beyond.

One highly successful innovation in alumni engagement over the past decade has been the themed conferences for alumni groups, bringing thousands of alumni back to campus, many for the first time since graduation. On campus and off campus, your Committee on Community Service engages Princeton alumni in service initiatives both large and small, providing some of the most gratifying experiences for alumni.

Nancy J. Newman '78
President, Alumni Association of Princeton University
Chair, Alumni Council

“As a young person, I always thought, “What am I here for?” I think I now know the answer... and have a fundamental understanding of where I was meant to be.”

Ophthalmologist Jeffrey Levenson '80 does volunteer work performing cataract surgery, restoring sight to many in Latin America.

Princetonians all over the world are involved in community service projects. The Alumni Council Committee on Community Service, led by chair Arlen Hastings ’80 and vice chair Kristen Epstein ’97, promotes and celebrates community service among Princeton alumni through providing guidelines for starting a service project; publicizing existing community service projects led by classes, regional groups, graduate alumni and affiliated groups; and honoring outstanding contributions by Princetonians in their efforts to address critical social, economic, and environmental needs throughout society and particularly in local communities.

For more information, visit: http://alumni.princeton.edu/volunteer/committees/communityservice/

Black alumni return to re-engage with Princeton and each other at the third Coming Back conference (2014)

Graduate alumni engage in the tradition of singing “Old Nassau” at the Many Minds, Many Stripes conference (2013)


Nearly 1,000 alumnae participate in engaging presentations celebrating women at Princeton during the She Roars conference (2011)

Did you know...
The Class of 1989 sponsored a Reunions Community Service project that saw over 250 alumni taking time out of their reunion weekend to package food for children in the United States and abroad.
On the Campus

The polished oak and richly colored tile mosaics at Richardson Auditorium offer a luminous setting for the many events held there. Photograph by Ricardo Barros
Paying for MOOCs

A University plan triggers faculty debate over royalties, control of online courses

Three years after Princeton began experimenting with online instruction on the Coursera Web platform, some faculty members are questioning the administration’s proposed rules that would govern who owns the course material and how it should be paid for.

To date, the University has offered about 15 different free Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) across more than seven disciplines on Coursera and NovoEd, another online-course provider.

Princeton estimates that the average cost to create each course is between $25,000 and $35,000 — about half for video production in the University’s Broadcast Center and half for course development — and it wants to recover a share of that money. The administration proposed recouping expenses if a course generates revenue.

In advance of a March faculty meeting on the issue, more than 40 professors signed a letter challenging the University’s plan, suggesting the proposal would jeopardize faculty ownership and control of the online materials.

“When you publish a book, the administration does not demand a share of the royalties, nor does it assert the right to give free copies to every student without your permission, in perpetuity,” wrote computer science professor Andrew Appel ’81, who authored the letter to all faculty members. “When you publish a book or article, you don’t need to seek clearance from the administration first. But the administration is seeking all of these things if your scholarly work is in the form of online-course materials.”

Like other universities, Princeton is grappling with how participation in MOOCs will affect the institution and individual faculty members. Nationally, with expanding revenue potential in MOOCs — and the significant costs in producing them — disputes over who owns the content are increasing.

The University proposed the idea of reimbursement for faculty members’ use of certain resources to make online-course materials if those course materials later generate revenue. If that happens, then a portion of the revenue would be used to recover Princeton’s costs in preparing the materials.

A 2013 report by an ad hoc committee on online courses suggested that “the University might tax income generated from online courses at 50 percent until costs have been recovered” and after that, the number could drop to 10 percent.

History professor Jeremy Adelman, one of the first faculty members at Princeton to teach a MOOC, said he disagrees with the professors who oppose the plan to amend the Rules and Procedures of the Faculty. Adelman said he doesn’t believe the University will be fully committed to digital learning and teaching until it puts rules for teaching online courses in writing.

“If the University wants to expand its capacity [to produce online courses], it has to find a revenue source to do that,” Adelman said. “If it doesn’t have a revenue source for doing these things, then the question will always be posed — if we put money into online learning, what are we taking the money out of? And that means our commitment to digital learning won’t be as strong as it otherwise would be.”

Deputy Dean of the College Clayton Marsh ’85 said that since Princeton began incorporating online courses three years ago, income has been negligible. And while the proposed revisions to the faculty rules “stimulated an important and much-needed discussion,” he said, it’s clear that the faculty needs more time to discuss the proposal. In the meantime, Marsh said, Princeton will use a standard agreement for each online course that provides for cost recovery and addresses other details.

“I think we’re starting to realize now just how profoundly revolutionary online learning is going to be,” Adelman said. “But like all revolutions, it doesn’t happen in a day.” ★ By A.W.
‘ART AS BEAUTY’

Paul Simon on Creating Songs, Joy

Singer and songwriter Paul Simon was more interested in baseball than music as a child, he said in a conversation with creative writing professor Paul Muldoon in Richardson Auditorium March 3.

Creating art “is about emotions, trying to reach other people. It’s about art as beauty,” Simon said. He explained how art was important to him: “If we don’t acknowledge the highest part of our humanity, it’s not a full picture. It’s not who we are. It doesn’t examine joy enough. That’s the privilege of being a human being.”

Earlier in the day, he sat in on Muldoon’s class on songwriting and talked to the students about the creative process. Simon told the Richardson audience, “I kept saying in class today, ‘What don’t you like about your song?’ I feel ... the ear goes to the irritant.” He played a recording of a new song, “The Insomniac’s Lullaby,” and closed the event by singing “The Sound of Silence.”

By J.A.

A $10 million gift from LOUIS SIMPSON *60 has created the Louis A. Simpson Center for the Study of Macroeconomics within the economics department. The center will support research into the behavior and structure of regional, national, and global economies.

Professor Richard Rogerson will serve as director. Former Federal Reserve chairman Ben Bernanke, who also chaired Princeton’s economics department, is scheduled to speak at the dedication in October.

Simpson, the chair of Naples, Fla.-based SQ Advisors LLC, is a former president and CEO for capital operations of Geico Corp.

Professor DAVID TANK, the co-director of the Princeton Neuroscience Institute, is one of four winners of the Brain Prize for outstanding contributions to brain research. Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark will present the award May 7 in Copenhagen; the four recipients will share 1 million euros. The researchers were selected for their work on two-photon microscopy in examining the function of individual nerve cells.

IN MEMORIAM

MICHAEL GRAVES, who brought his playful style both to world-class buildings and mass-market household goods, died March 12. He was 80.

Graves, the Robert Schirmer Professor of Architecture, emeritus, joined Princeton’s faculty in 1962 and retired in 2001. Graves was known for important postmodern buildings such as the Portland, Ore., municipal building and the headquarters of the Humana health-care company in Kentucky. He then designed stylish utilitarian items, like the iconic stainless steel Alessi teakettle, for ordinary consumers. After a virus left him paralyzed in 2003, Graves focused on designing hospitals and rehab centers, believing that well-designed spaces could encourage better healing.

PETITION’S GOAL: SUSTAINABLE INVESTING

The Endowment’s Carbon Footprint

Members of the Princeton Sustainable Investment Initiative met with the University’s Resources Committee March 3 to discuss the group’s goal of reducing the impact of Princeton’s endowment on climate change. “It is time Princeton invests its $21 billion endowment in a manner consistent with the core values it has demonstrated through its commitment to environmental research and on-campus emissions reductions,” says the sustainable-investment committee, which is aligned with fossil-fuel divestment campaigns across the country, in a petition with more than 1,570 signatures.

The group has proposed adopting the United Nations’ Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI); publishing an annual report estimating the carbon footprint of the endowment; creating a committee to develop “environmentally and financially responsible investment guidelines” for managing the endowment; and other measures.

The Resources Committee, which considers endowment issues including those related to socially responsible investments, did not set a timetable for its response.
The Ph.D. Job Hunt
University puts more emphasis on help for those seeking nonacademic careers

The University is increasing its focus on advising and placement services for graduate students as the job market for teaching positions continues to be challenging.

“The number of Ph.D.s granted nationally has been increasing, but academic jobs are not increasing at the rate of Ph.D.s,” said Sanjeev Kulkarni, dean of the Graduate School. “We need to talk about positions outside the academy not as a second-class option.”

Princeton “does an amazing job at placement, especially compared to national averages,” Kulkarni said. In surveys taken of the University’s Ph.D. students over the last four years, 87 percent reported job offers at the time of their dissertation defense. That compared to a national average of less than 70 percent for the two-decade period ending in 2012, according to a National Science Foundation study.

The Princeton surveys found that during the last four years, about one-fourth of Ph.D. recipients in the humanities and social sciences had a tenured or tenure-track position, while that figure was 5 percent or less for the natural sciences and engineering (adding in postdoc positions swells these numbers significantly). Nonacademic positions ranged from 7 percent for those in the humanities to 53 percent for engineers.

Not surprisingly, over the past seven years, Career Services has seen a 63 percent increase in the number of graduate-student appointments and walk-ins, said Amy Pszczolkowski, assistant director and graduate-student career counselor at Career Services.

“Career Services has professionals who have been trained to help students think about their careers, look for jobs, and get positions,” Kulkarni said. “They are involved in activities such as recruiting and job fairs, and that’s not what faculty members typically do.”

Since last July, Career Services has held more than two dozen workshops for graduate students, including “Career Options for Historians” (government, museums, consulting) and “Career Transitions for Graduate Students.”

Alumni have been invited to campus to speak to grad students; in one instance in December, Victoria Bjorklund ’73, a University trustee, gave a talk on “Pivoting with a Ph.D.,” describing her path from a doctorate in medieval studies to law school and a position with an international law firm.

The office has organized visits to employers, including Mathematica Policy Research in West Windsor Township and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in New Brunswick. “I felt the need for graduate students with no experience outside of academia to see where people physically work,” Pszczolkowski said. “It’s tremendously helpful for them.”

Kulkarni cited a pilot program last semester in which four grad students “shadowed” Princeton administrators for about six hours a week, receiving a small stipend and mentoring about university administration.

Career Services also formed an advisory board of 11 grad students last summer. “I think we’ve made some great strides in the past seven years, but I think there’s always room to improve,” Pszczolkowski said. “It’s a work in progress.”

Kulkarni pointed out that academic departments often have field-specific insights into industry; for example, the chemistry department can be helpful when students are thinking about teaching.

Ph.D.s: Where They Went
Based on surveys from 2010–11 to 2013–14, at time of dissertation defense

| Tenured/Tenure Track | 12% |
| Postdoc | 31% |
| Other Academic | 11% |
| Nonacademic | 26% |
| Misc. (includes further study) | 7% |
| Not placed | 13% |

continues on page 16
Thursday, April 9, 2015
Posthuman or Perfected Human?
Biotechnical Enhancement and the History of Redemption
Gilbert Meilaender, Senior Research Professor, Valparaiso University; Paul Ramsey Fellow, Center for Ethics and Culture, University of Notre Dame
7:30 p.m., Friend Center 006

Friday, April 10, 2015
Politics, Theology, and the Limits of Ethics
A Conference Celebrating the Work of Gilbert Meilaender, Senior Research Professor, Valparaiso University; Paul Ramsey Fellow, Center for Ethics and Culture, University of Notre Dame
Cosponsored by the Berkeley Institute
See Website for Schedule, McCormick Hall 101

Sunday, April 12, 2015
A Public Conversation on Religious Freedom in the World
Featuring Baroness Elizabeth Berridge of the Vale of Catmose, Chair, All Party Parliamentary Group on International Freedom of Religion or Belief; and Robert P. George, McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence, Director, James Madison Program, Princeton University
4:30 p.m., Lewis Library 120

Thursday, April 16, 2015
A Jewish-Christian Dialogue on Religion, Culture, and Politics
Featuring Dennis Prager, Nationally Syndicated Radio Host, Co-Founder, Prager University; and Robert P. George, McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence, Director, James Madison Program, Princeton University
7:30 p.m., Friend Center 101

Tuesday, April 21, 2015
The Constitution Goes to Princeton
Akhil Reed Amar, Sterling Professor of Law and Political Science, Yale University
Walter F. Murphy Lecture on American Constitutionalism
Cosponsored by the Program in Law and Public Affairs
4:30 p.m., Dodds Auditorium, Robertson Hall

Monday – Tuesday, May 18-19, 2015
The Robert J. Giuffra ’82 Conference on Law and the Culture of Liberty
Keynote Address by John M. Finnis, Biolchini Family Professor of Law, Law School of the University of Notre Dame; Professor Emeritus of Law and Legal Philosophy, Oxford University
Cosponsored by the Association for the Study of Free Institutions, Texas Tech University; and the Bouton Law Lecture Fund
See Website for Schedule, Location TBA
continued from page 14

about the pharmaceutical industry. But while students often look within their departments for help in finding a job, the reactions of faculty members vary.

Some faculty advisers are very supportive of grad students who want to pursue nonacademic careers, said Sean Edington, president of the Graduate Student Government, but fellow graduate students have told him that others can be “openly hostile.”

“If you’re a professor here, it’s a given that you went an academic route, so some professors might view it as going against what they chose,” Edington said. “It can seem like a snub or a criticism.” In some departments, he added, the academic route is considered the hardest and most prestigious option, and students who do not follow that path can be seen as “giving up or copping out.”

During a discussion of grad-student careers at the March 9 meeting of the Council of the Princeton University Community, philosophy professor Elizabeth Harman asked if the University has plans to encourage faculty to be more receptive to students who are considering nonacademic careers, saying those students can face “real obstacles.”

Sarah-Jane Leslie ’07, a philosophy professor who chairs a working group that is examining the Graduate School’s placement and professional-development efforts as part of the University’s strategic planning, said the group may create a set of best practices to support interest in both academic and nonacademic jobs. Faculty members need to “stay abreast of the current job market in their field,” she said, and be willing to be supportive and direct students seeking nonacademic careers to Career Services for help.

Leslie said she hoped the CPUC discussion would help to raise awareness and lead to a campuswide conversation. “We faculty need to take the lead on changing to make sure students feel comfortable exploring the full range of career options,” she said.

“This is a conversation we need to have, and a culture change may be needed in some areas,” Kulkarni said. ◆ By Greta Cuyler

Referendum on Bicker

Vote to end system wouldn’t be binding, but bicker foes hope it could spur changes

R esults were expected in early April of a student referendum on a proposal to end bicker at the selective eating clubs in four years.

The referendum — which supporters said was the first time students had ever voted on the issue — was scheduled by the Undergraduate Student Government after a petition drive by Joseph LoPresti ’15 and Ryan Low ’16 received the 500 signatures needed.

The movement, dubbed “Hose Bicker,” would direct the USG to establish a committee to “facilitate ending bicker.” While the eating clubs are separate from the University, and the committee would have no formal power to mandate that the clubs end bicker, Low and LoPresti hope that if passed, the referendum would show the will of the student body and pressure the selective clubs to make changes.

The current system “breeds a culture of elitism and needless selectivity,” LoPresti said.

A Daily Princetonian editorial described bicker as “a complex and contentious issue” but said a referendum seeking a discussion of bicker, rather than its end, would have been preferable. A Prince column by Barbara Zhan ’16 said the campaign failed to understand bicker’s necessary role in “fostering a community of people with similar interests.”

Many students were dismissive of the campaign or viewed the proponents as “a bunch of people who are sad because they got hosed,” LoPresti said. He and Low both bickered unsuccessfully. Low is now a member of the 2D dining co-op, and LoPresti is a member of Colonial Club.

As students prepared for spring break in the middle of March, public debate on the issue seemed muted. But many students had firm opinions on the campaign.

Nick Sexton ’17, a member of Cap and Gown, was one who signed the petition. “I had many friends who didn’t get in who I think deserved to get in,” he said. “I don’t think it’s a very healthy process.”

Sexton acknowledged that it was unlikely the referendum would change anything. “I think that the reason a lot of people are signing it is more to protest bicker than affirm that the alternatives are good,” he said.

Peter Miller ’17 said that with 11 eating clubs, “you’re sure to fit in somewhere. Whether or not you get hosed from one, there’s going to be another where you have friends.”

Alexander Lee ’17 said the current system allows freshmen to “find your group of people. … It’s cool being able to go join that and obviously it sucks when people can’t get in, but that’s life.” ◆ By Jean Wang ’16

By Greta Cuyler

“Hose Bicker” leaders Joseph LoPresti ’15, left, and Ryan Low ’16 on Prospect Avenue.
“Princeton has provided us with a noble heritage: a tradition of integrity and honorable dealing, a passion for excellence and . . . the ability to differ intellectually without disliking emotionally.”

—BILL HUDNUT ’27: an excerpt from a letter to the editor, Princeton Alumni Weekly, October 5, 1983

Since the inaugural Annual Giving campaign in 1940-41, generations of alumni, parents, and friends have joined together to create a tradition of giving back and providing essential support for Princeton.

This year’s Annual Giving campaign ends on June 30, 2015. To contribute by credit card, please call the 24-hour gift line at 800-258-5421 (outside the U.S., 609-258-3373), or use the secure website at www.princeton.edu. Checks made payable to Princeton University can be mailed to Annual Giving, Box 5357, Princeton, NJ 08543-5357.
This may sound like the whining of overly pampered children, but our knee-knocking, teeth-chattering winter wasn’t kind to Princeton’s graduate students, who live much farther from the center of campus than their undergraduate counterparts.

There are four “on-campus” graduate-student housing options: the Lawrence, Stanworth, and Butler apartments, as well as the Graduate College (GC). According to Google Maps, the Friend Center, the home base of engineers, is a 22-minute walk from the GC, 23 minutes from Stanworth, and 32 minutes from Lawrence. Butler is a 25-minute walk from Robertson Hall, the central hub for the Woodrow Wilson School, and from the econ department in Fisher Hall. Butler to Stanworth? Forty-six minutes.

In fair weather, these distances represent an opportunity to get some sunshine and ride a bike. In winter snowstorms, they were debilitating not just to productivity, but also to social life.

The seclusion of Princeton’s grad-student housing can exacerbate the feeling of solitude for Princetonians whose friends live in far-flung dormitories.

The free TigerTransit bus system is intended to remedy this. But some students complained of schedules that didn’t line up with common class-starting times, and everyone I spoke with disparaged the lack of regular weekend service. “I think the buses are terrible, and I never take them,” said Kate Burke, an M.P.A. student at the Woodrow Wilson School. “But that does get me walking, which is the only exercise I get.”

And then there’s D-Bar, the student-run, affordable bar in the basement of the GC that theoretically should be a gathering place for weekend nights … except there’s no way to get there from Butler on weekend nights. Multiple Butlerites spoke of having to find a designated driver or take an Uber. Yes, Uber. Desperate times, desperate measures.

The University is listening. The expected June opening of new grad-student housing at Lakeside will consolidate the Butler and Stanworth populations into one location that is closer to campus. That should solve many of these issues.

A group of consultants has also been on campus, interviewing bus riders about their experience and looking for ways to improve the system. While I haven’t yet seen them on my morning commute, the students I spoke with gave positive reviews of their interactions. The consultants were even asking whether students would be likely to use a weekend bus service if it were provided. Yes, please!
A Short History of Rome’s Pantheon

Rebuilt in Antiquity, Reused in the Middle Ages, Rediscovered in the Renaissance

Professors
Carolyn Yerkes, Beatrice Kitzinger, and Michael Koortbojian

Friday, May 29, 2015 -- 11:00 AM
106 McCormick Hall
In chasing a perfect season and an Ivy League title, the Princeton women’s basketball team performed with an entertaining blend of precision, speed, flair, and grit. The only element missing from most games was suspense: Other than a 56–50 win at Yale in mid-February, the Tigers’ Ivy wins tended to be lopsided by halftime. Their average margin of victory through the first 13 league games was 26 points.

But in the Ivy finale March 10, second-place Penn provided a proper test for a team vying to finish the only undefeated regular season in Division I women’s basketball this year. Princeton was held to just 26 first-half points, and shortly after intermission, the Quakers trimmed the Tigers’ five-point lead down to one.

Then, as it had so many times before, Princeton’s defense took charge. In a nine-minute stretch, Penn managed to score just four points and turned the ball over five times. By the time the Quakers’ offense revived, the Tigers held a double-digit lead. They went on to win 55–42.

“You want to battle, and that’s what we love about playing Penn,” head coach Courtney Banghart said afterward. “It makes for such a great story, and that’s how I categorize my team: This team has made for a great story all year. ... We’re certainly glad we can help the story continue.”

Since February, nearly every weekend had included a milestone for the Tigers. At 22–0, they broke a team record for consecutive wins, set in 2009–10, the first of Banghart’s five Ivy championship seasons. At 26–0, Banghart became the program’s all-time wins leader with 164 victories. At 27–0, the Tigers set another team record, this time for the most wins in a season. At 28–0, they tied the 1970–71 Penn men’s team for the best start in Ivy history. And at 29–0, they clinched the league’s bid to the NCAA Tournament.

After winning the Ivy title at Columbia, Princeton’s reaction was almost comically subdued — no dancing, no hugs, just a few waves to the applauding Tiger fans.

“We still have a sour taste in our mouths from last year, losing to Penn in the last game of the season, and we definitely don’t want a repeat of that,” point guard Blake Dietrick ’15 explained. “We’re still in business-mode.”

Three days later at the Palestra, sour gave way to sweet, business turned to celebration, and the Tigers etched their mark into history: 30–0.  ◆ By B.T.
**MEN’S TENNIS**

**Earning a Place in the Ivy’s Elite**

After back-to-back wins over Mississippi State and Clemson in February, Princeton men’s tennis jumped to No. 23 in the national rankings, its highest position since 1980. Still, the Tigers were the third-best Ivy League team, behind No. 18 Columbia and No. 22 Harvard. Penn, Brown, and Dartmouth also earned spots in the top 50 in advance of what could be one of the most exciting seasons in Ivy history.

Zack McCourt ’15, Princeton’s top singles player, was looking forward to the league schedule, which spans four weekends from March 28 to April 19. “Competing at a higher level helps the team to improve even faster, so it’s definitely a privilege — particularly when you’re being tested on a national scale,” he said.

The Tigers were 13–3 heading into their final pre-Ivy tournament in San Diego.

*By Victoria Majchrzak ’15*

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**SPORTS SHORTS**

**MEN’S BASKETBALL** won its last four games, including a thrilling comeback win over Columbia March 7 in which Princeton scored the final 11 points to edge the Lions 85–83.

**WOMEN’S LACROSSE** opened Ivy League play with an 8–5 win over Dartmouth March 7. The Tigers improved to 4–0 for the first time since 2008.

**MEN’S SWIMMING AND DIVING** led from start to finish in the Ivy Championships Feb. 26–28, winning three individual events and all five relays.

At the EIWA Championships March 6–7, **WRESTLING** standouts Abram Ayala ’16, Jordan Laster ’17, and Chris Perez ’16 earned NCAA bids and Princeton placed seventh in the team standings. Brett Harner ’17 and Jonathan Schleifer ’18 received at-large NCAA bids.

**MEN’S TRACK AND FIELD** won the Ivy Indoor Heptagonal Championships at Harvard Feb. 28–March 1, outpacing second-place Cornell by 63 points — the largest margin of victory in meet history. Carrington Akosa ’18 won the 200-meter dash. Greg Leeper ’17, right, led a 1–2–3 Tiger finish in the long jump. **WOMEN’S TRACK AND FIELD** finished third, behind Harvard and Columbia.

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**Zack McCourt ’15**
Summer 2015

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Unlocking the secret of “silent genes” may lead to the development of new antibiotics

There is a war going on inside us every moment, with microscopic bacteria — some good, some bad — battling each other for supremacy. Our arsenal is a legion of antibiotics, developed over the past 80 years, that helps us kill the harmful pathogens. In fact, many of these antibiotics have been developed from chemicals produced by bacteria to fight their own battles. “They have the ability to produce antibiotics, presumably because they grow and evolve in an environment where they are competing with other bacteria,” says chemistry professor Mohammad “Mo” Seyedsayamdost, who is working to add new weapons to our antibiotic stockpile.

Many antibiotics we use today are based on the chemical structures, or “scaffolds,” of those discovered in the 1940s and 1950s, the so-called golden age of antibiotic medicine. As pathogens have mutated to develop resistance, however, these antibiotics have become less effective. “We are in the middle of an antibiotic crisis,” Seyedsayamdost says. “At the same time, most pharmaceutical companies have abandoned their search for new antibiotics. Other drugs have larger profit margins, and so they focus on those instead.”

Seyedsayamdost’s lab has taken a new approach: letting bacteria do the work for us. A single type of bacterium may produce one or two antibiotics, but they have the capability of producing dozens more, if only the right clusters of genes could be “switched on” inside them. With a background in both bioengineering and chemistry, Seyedsayamdost has been working to activate these so-called “silent” or “cryptic” genes.

Seyedsayamdost began his work with bacteria called Burkholderia thailandensis, which secretes a molecule called malleilactone, but only when the pathogen is inside a parasitic worm. Seyedsayamdost wanted to see if he could “switch on” the gene cluster that produces malleilactone in the laboratory by exposing the bacteria to naturally occurring chemicals.

Setting up a grid of more than 600 squares, he inserted a bacterial culture into each one, modified with a gene that would make it luminesce when the malleilactone is activated. Then he exposed each culture to a different chemical. “I was prepared to screen tens of thousands of molecules to find the right one,” Seyedsayamdost says. Instead, in the very first trial, nine squares lit up, showing the presence of malleilactone.

In all cases, surprisingly, the successful chemicals were themselves other antibiotics, which may act as messages to activate these silent genes. “We use them in high concentrations to kill bacteria, but at the concentrations they are found in nature, they may be signaling molecules,” speculates Seyedsayamdost. The next step is to introduce this method to other silent gene clusters, in the hope of producing new antibiotics. At the same time, the technique could be used to set up bacterial “factories” that could rapidly produce antibiotics, cutting down production costs, he says: “This could lead us to a molecule that could be used as a new scaffold for future antibiotics.”

By Michael Blanding
A Murder in Mexico

Never-before-seen photographs shed light on Leon Trotsky’s murder

In August 1940, with much of the world’s attention trained on World War II raging in Europe, one of the most prominent figures in 20th-century Russian history was murdered in Mexico City. Leon Trotsky, a Marxist and a leader of the Bolsheviks who had been exiled by Joseph Stalin, was felled by an ice axe plunged into his skull by his secretary’s mysterious boyfriend.

Rubén Gallo, a professor of Spanish and Portuguese languages and cultures, has shed light on the story of Trotsky’s murder using never-before-seen photographs of Trotsky’s autopsy and other documents that were donated to Firestone Library in 2013.

Trotsky was murdered by Ramón Mercader del Rio, a Spaniard who was recruited for the deed by his mother and her lover, a Soviet operative. He wooed Trotsky’s secretary, an American woman, while she was vacationing in Paris and followed her back to Mexico City, then used her to gain admission to Trotsky’s office. Though historians knew the circumstances of the murder, the photos provide new details.

The perpetrator was caught moments after the murder, and the library’s collection includes photographs of the crime scene to demonstrate what he had done. At one point, investigators handed him a copy of the murder weapon so he could show them how the grisly scene played out. One photograph shows the bloodstained floor of Trotsky’s office just after the killing; in another, Trotsky’s body is lying on a table as a doctor prepares to perform an autopsy.

Trotsky knew that Stalin was trying to murder him, Gallo says, and he took precautions. A photo in the collection shows the bricked-up windows of Trotsky’s house in Mexico City with uniformed guards stationed out front. Gallo’s essay about the documents was published in the Princeton University Library Chronicle in 2013.

Gallo, who directs Princeton’s Latin American studies program, says the photos and documents help illuminate a period in Latin America when the United States and the Soviet Union were struggling for dominance in the region. The Soviet embassy in Mexico City, for example, was at the time one of the primary centers of espionage in Latin America.

Gallo learned about the documents after publishing his 2010 book, *Freud’s Mexico*, which includes a chapter on Trotsky. Before her death in 1962, Trotsky’s widow gave the box to a filmmaker and, after the box changed hands again, Gallo facilitated its transfer to Firestone. By Gabriel Debenedetti ’12
Seven projects have been awarded $900,000 by the dean for research’s “innovation funds,” which offer support for bold ideas.

Chemistry professors GARNET CHAN and GREGORY SCHOLES received $200,000 to study how atomic particles interact at the quantum level to discover new chemical reactions, which could lead to advances in energy and medicine.

Molecular biology professors JARED TOETTCHER and ALEXANDER PLOSS received $200,000 to develop a method for controlling cell behavior in live animals that could be used to study the causes and treatment of disease.

ZEMER GITAI, an associate professor of molecular biology, received $200,000 to work on building “resistance-proof” antibiotics that retain their potency against bacteria.

ROBERT PRUD’HOMME, a professor of chemical and biological engineering, received $100,000 to explore ways to improve nanoparticles for use as drug-delivery systems. Nanoparticles must remain in the body long enough to deliver a drug but be cleared out when they are no longer useful.

Computer science professors KAI LI and SEBASTIAN SEUNG received $100,000 to collaborate with Intel to speed up the computation time involved in deep learning, a form of machine learning with the capacity to tackle modeling of the brain and other complex systems.

In the humanities, English professors SARAH CHIHAYA, JOSHUA KOTIN, and KINOHI NISHIKAWA received $50,000 for a conference on 21st-century literature. East Asian studies professor MARTIN KERN received $50,000 for a project on classical Chinese.
Kip Thorne *65, the scientist behind Interstellar, gets a new title: Movie Mogul

BY MARK F. BERNSTEIN ’83

When visual-effects artist Paul Franklin accepted the Oscar in February for his work on the hit movie Interstellar, he gave thanks to the many explorers of science “who show us the universe in all its amazing and terrifying beauty.” Franklin made it a point to single out physicist Kip Thorne *65 for special recognition, calling him “one of the smartest people on Earth.”

Thorne never planned to attend the Oscar ceremony, or even to watch it, though he finally relented and watched at a friend’s house. He’s not much of a movie buff, he confesses, and is knee-deep in another project, rechecking each and every formula in a 1,300-page physics textbook he has co-authored. A 74-year-old professor emeritus at the California Institute of Technology, Thorne has been a driving force on a project that may for the first time detect the presence of gravitational waves, which are caused by warps in the four-dimensional space-time described in Einstein’s theory of general relativity. And he has another movie in the works.

Interstellar, which was nominated for five Academy Awards, has grossed more than $225 million worldwide, but what has provoked the most attention is its determination to treat complicated scientific concepts seriously. The film concerns mankind’s desperate attempt to find habitable planets in other galaxies, a search that leads through wormholes and around black holes, exotic features of the universe that Thorne has spent much of his career studying. It was he who wrote the elaborate mathematical equations that enabled filmmakers to create them digitally on the big screen. To coincide with the film’s release, Thorne published a companion book, A 74-year-old professor emeritus at the California Institute of Technology, Thorne has been a driving force on a project that may for the first time detect the presence of gravitational waves, which are caused by warps in the four-dimensional space-time described in Einstein’s theory of general relativity. And he has another movie in the works.

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Over the last half-century, Thorne has worked with many of his field’s most respected figures, including his mentor, the late Princeton professor John Wheeler; his former colleague Richard Feynman *42; and his friend Stephen Hawking. In recognition of his recently broadened portfolio, though, Thorne’s puckish Caltech assistant has updated the nametag outside his office door. It now reads:

Kip S. Thorne
The Feynman Professor of Theoretical Physics, Emeritus
Hollywood Mogul

“Mogul” would be overstating things, as Thorne himself would be the first to say. But since Interstellar has served as Thorne’s vehicle for introducing cutting-edge physics to the general public, it may also be a good vehicle for introducing the public to him.

Thorne says his tuxedo that evening in 1980 was baby blue; Hollywood producer Lynda Obst, his date to the premiere of Carl Sagan’s television science series Cosmos, remembers that it was maroon. Whichever it was, neither color did him much credit, nor did the peace-sign medallion he wore with it. “Fabulous guy,” Obst thought. “Needs a stylist.”

Obst and Thorne didn’t work out as a couple, but they remained close friends with each other and with Sagan. When Sagan wanted one of the characters in his 1985 novel, Contact, to traverse the galaxies through a black hole, he first ran the idea past Thorne. It won’t work, Thorne told him: Have her use a wormhole instead. When Obst, a self-described “physics geek,” had an idea in 2005 for the science-fiction movie that would become Interstellar, she knew whom to call to deal with the science. Then she arranged several meetings with Steven Spielberg, who liked an eight-page treatment and tentatively agreed to direct the film.

Jonathan “Jonah” Nolan signed on to polish the script and Paramount Pictures agreed to produce it, but the long 2007 Hollywood writers’ strike stopped everyone’s momentum. By the time the writers returned to work, both Nolan and Spielberg had dropped out for other projects. Into this gap stepped Nolan’s brother, Christopher, fresh off a huge commercial success directing The Dark Knight, who agreed both to direct and to finish the still-imperfect screenplay.

At his first meeting with Spielberg, Thorne proposed two rules that would govern the making of Interstellar: Nothing in the plot could violate the laws of physics, and any speculations about physical laws that might still be imperfectly understood would nevertheless be grounded in principles that — as he later put it in his book — “serious physicists would at least discuss over a beer.”

Nolan also agreed to Thorne’s principles, and over the next several years the two consulted, argued, and compromised as the film moved through production. Thorne “saw his role not as science police, but as narrative collaborator,” Nolan wrote.
in a foreword to Thorne’s book, “scouring scientific journals and academic papers for solutions to corners I’d written myself into.” The only time they came to loggerheads was when Nolan insisted that he needed a character to be able to travel faster than the speed of light. Though it took several weeks, Thorne finally convinced him that such a thing was impossible, and the director backed down.

When it came time to make the movie, Thorne worked just as closely with Franklin, who already had won a visual-effects Oscar for *Inception*. Black holes emit no light and wormholes have never been proven to exist. What did those things look like and how would they behave in the real world? Thorne spent months writing mathematical formulas to estimate, say, how a black hole’s gravity would bend light from other objects. He then sent them to Oliver James, the film’s chief scientist and an atomic physicist in his own right, who would convert the formulas into computer code and pass it on to engineers who transformed the code into visual images. Some of those images took up to 100 hours each to create. The entire film contains a massive 800 terabytes of data.

“You cannot imagine how ecstatic I was when Oliver sent me his initial film clips,” Thorne writes in his book. “For the first time ever — and before any other scientist — I saw in ultrahigh definition what a fast-spinning black hole looks like.”

Two of the film’s stars, Matthew McConaughey and Anne Hathaway, peppered him with technical questions to help them prepare for their roles; Michael Caine, who plays a physicist, grew a beard to look more like Thorne. When it came time to film scenes in the Caine character’s office, blackboards in the background were filled with actual formulas for the theories the characters were discussing, all meticulously written in Thorne’s own hand.

While some reviewers and scientists criticized parts of the movie as far-fetched, Thorne believes that misses the point. *Interstellar* is not a documentary, so some dramatic license was unavoidable, but he insists that the underlying physics is conceptually sound. Science writers, Dennis Overbye noted on his *New York Times* blog, “have paid the movie the ultimate compliment: taking it seriously enough to subject it to a kind of public peer review.” Michio Kaku, a theoretical physicist at City College of New York, told *CBS News* that the film “could set the gold standard for science-fiction movies for years to come.”

For *Interstellar*’s London premiere last October, Obst might have seemed like an obvious choice to be Thorne’s date, but he invited someone else: Stephen Hawking, his friend for nearly half a century. Several weeks later, Hawking returned the favor by inviting Thorne to be his date to the London premiere of *The Theory of Everything*, the movie about Hawking’s life.

By the time he was 13, Thorne had decided that he wanted to study general relativity, and as an undergraduate at Caltech he took Feynman’s legendary “Physics X” course, so named because it wasn’t listed in the catalog. Instead, every other week Feynman would set up in an empty lecture hall and talk about whatever topics the students, down to the lowliest freshman, wanted to discuss.

“He was so good that he could give a polished lecture about any question that you wanted to raise,” Thorne recalls. Later, when they both served on the Caltech faculty, Feynman became “the person I would go to when I thought I had a good idea, to see if he could tear it apart.”

It was in graduate school at Princeton, studying under John Archibald Wheeler, that Thorne became interested in black holes. Wheeler, the longtime Joseph Henry Professor of Physics, had worked with everyone from Albert Einstein to Enrico Fermi and is credited with adding the terms “black hole” and “wormhole” to the scientific lexicon. Colleagues and students admired his ability to deliver elegantly detailed lectures without notes.

Thorne remembers Wheeler as a “phenomenal mentor” who had “tremendously good sense as to how much guidance a person needed and how long a person needed to flounder.” In 1967, at the age of 27, Thorne became one of the youngest tenured professors in Caltech’s history and six years later joined Wheeler and Charles Misner ’57 in writing *Gravitation*, a textbook so influential that it is still often cited as “MTW,” after the authors’ initials.

Throughout his career, Thorne has tried to emulate his mentors when working with his own graduate students. Frans Pretorius, now in Princeton’s physics department, was one of Thorne’s postdocs from 2002 to 2005 and says Thorne would convene weekly groups of undergraduates, graduate students, and sometimes interested faculty members at which the participants could discuss their latest projects and share ideas.
Some of these sessions could run as long as five hours.

“What really impressed me was how he could juggle so many different people,” Pretorius recalls. “There would easily be 20 people there, and he could intellectually manage all of them.”

In one significant respect, though, Thorne and Wheeler were temperamentally different. Wheeler’s inquiries in his later years sometimes took an almost philosophical turn. Such questions, Thorne admits, “always left me a little cold” — he describes himself, rather, as “more of a nuts-and-bolts engineer.” In his view, there are many different ways to describe what goes on in the universe: “The issue of which is the ‘true’ one is a meaningless issue.”

Thorne first met Hawking at a conference on general relativity in London in the summer of 1965. Thorne had just finished defending his Ph.D. thesis, and Hawking, who was still working on his and beginning to show signs of ALS, gave a presentation in which he applied Roger Penrose’s theories in differential topology to the operation of black holes. “It was a very impressive talk, and it was a new direction that nobody had done before,” Thorne recalls. They bonded while chatting afterward in the hall — grad student to grad student — and still get together several times a year. “We talk about life, not much about physics,” Thorne says.

Although the two never have collaborated professionally, they have made two famous wagers, both of which Thorne won. The first, made in 1974, concerned whether Cygnus X-1, an X-ray source in the constellation Cygnus, was in fact a black hole. If it could be proven that Cygnus X-1 was not a black hole, Thorne would buy Hawking a subscription to Penthouse. If Cygnus X-1 was a black hole, Thorne would buy Hawking a subscription to the satirical magazine Private Eye. If Cygnus X-1 was a black hole, Hawking would buy Thorne a subscription to Penthouse. Hawking conceded the bet almost 16 years later and paid up.

In 1991, Hawking bet Thorne and his Caltech colleague, John Preskill, £100 that the laws of physics prohibit the existence of singularities (points of infinite density at a black hole’s core) outside the black hole’s event horizon, the point beyond which nothing can escape the black hole’s gravity. Six years later, after a University of Texas postdoc showed that such “naked” singularities could be created in a computer simulation, Hawking again conceded — “on a technicality,” he said, because he had wanted to know if they could occur naturally.

Such diversions color a career that has placed Thorne among the forefront of theoretical physicists. In addition to describing the structure and behavior of black holes and wormholes, in 1977 he and Polish astrophysicist Anna Żytkow predicted the existence of red supergiant stars with smaller neutron stars at their core, oddities now known as Thorne-Zytkow Objects or TZO's. Last year, astronomers announced that the star HV 2112 might be the first TZO ever discovered.

It may be, however, that Thorne’s most important contribution will come over the next several years, as the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory project (LIGO) becomes fully operational. Thorne co-founded LIGO in 1984 and joined his colleagues in convincing the National Science Foundation to build two huge observation stations, in Washington State and Louisiana, which it is hoped will detect the presence of gravitational waves rippling across the cosmos.

Einstein posited nearly a century ago that large gravitational disturbances — such as a collision of black holes, a pair of neutron stars orbiting each other, or even the Big Bang — would send out gravitational waves like ripples on a pond, warping space-time itself. There is strong observational evidence that these waves exist — former Princeton professors Joseph Taylor and Russell Hulse shared the 1993 Nobel Prize for measuring changes in the orbits of neutron stars caused by gravitational waves — but their presence never has been directly observed or measured. When LIGO’s instruments are tuned to their full sensitivity within the next few years, they will be able to measure quivers in the fabric of space-time as minute as one ten-quadrillionth of an inch, or one-thousandth the diameter of a proton. Gravitational waves also will give scientists detailed information about the space-time of black holes and whether they look the way Einstein’s theories predicted.

LIGO might make it possible to observe the chaos in space-time that results when two distant black holes collide. Wheeler, always a gifted phrasemaker, dubbed those wild oscillations “geometrodynamics.” It bothered him that we knew so little about how warped space-time behaves, or why, and he urged his students to strike out into this scientific unknown.

“We tried, and failed miserably,” Thorne writes in his book. “We didn’t know how to solve Einstein’s equations well enough to learn their predictions, and we had no way to observe geometrodynamics in the astronomical universe. I’ve devoted much of my career to changing this.”

Thorne retired from Caltech in 2009 but still keeps an office there, which he visits occasionally to consult with colleagues and participate in a research program trying to understand the nonlinear dynamics of curved space-time. On a warm February afternoon, clad in a Hawaiian shirt, jeans, and Birkenstocks, he talked about his next projects.

He and Obst are collaborating with Hawking on a new movie venture. They have written nine drafts of a treatment and begun talking to a screenwriter, but won’t discuss the plot except to say that it concerns cosmology — the study of the origins and fate of the universe.

Another topic that has long interested Thorne is whether backward time travel is possible. Hawking insists that the laws of physics forbid it; Thorne isn’t so sure. If they can ever agree on the terms and conditions, they are thinking about another bet.

Mark F. Bernstein ’83 is PAW’s senior writer.

WATCH: Kip Thorne ’65 and Christopher Nolan on the physics of Interstellar in a Time.com video at paw.princeton.edu
A half-century after the escalation of the war in Vietnam, a historian takes stock

By Julian E. Zelizer

Fifty years ago, President Lyndon Johnson vastly escalated the war in Vietnam. The process had started in August 1964, when LBJ convinced Congress to pass the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, a measure that granted the president sweeping authority to use military force in the area. Johnson said that the authority from the resolution was so broad it was like “grandma’s nightshirt” since “it covers everything.” Nonetheless, he promised Arkansas Sen. J. William Fulbright, who led the resolution through the Senate, that he would return to Congress if he wanted to use significant force in the future.

The following year, after his massive landslide victory against Republican Sen. Barry Goldwater, which produced huge liberal Democratic majorities (295 Democrats in the House and 68 in the Senate), LBJ continued moving the escalation forward, first with a fierce bombing campaign, known as Operation Rolling Thunder, against the communist forces, and then by sending tens of thousands of ground troops into the conflict.

The war turned into a huge disaster for Johnson, for the nation, and for the Vietnamese. “That bitch of a war,” Johnson later said, “killed the lady I really loved — the Great Society.” What started small would grow rapidly into a huge and deadly ground war that lasted until 1973. In the end, the U.S. government withdrew its forces, and South Vietnam fell to communism. The war resulted in massive casualties and permanently undermined confidence, within the United States and throughout the world, in America’s stated objectives in its fight against communism.

Vietnam remains a major topic in our classrooms. Undergraduates continue to learn a number of important lessons from examining America’s war in Vietnam and its aftermath. The war that unfolded in Southeast Asia (though it was never officially a war) is an integral part of classroom conversations about U.S. history and international relations.

One of the most important discoveries I hope students take away from a deep dive into the history of the Vietnam War is an understanding of the dangers we face when our elected officials allow for a blind adherence to foreign-policy orthodoxies to dictate their decisions and when political considerations guide what happens with regards to war and peace.

Both factors were clearly at work when Johnson kept making the decision to increase U.S. involvement rather than to withdraw. Johnson came from a generation of Democrats who believed that for strategic and political reasons, it was essential to remain tough against communism everywhere in the world. He subscribed to “the domino theory,” meaning that if one country fell to communism, no matter how small or seemingly irrelevant, others quickly would follow. This was the argument being put forth by many of his top national-security advisers.

Even as a number of legislators privately expressed doubts about the wisdom of this strategy, Johnson stood firm.

Johnson’s decisions also were shaped by his political fears that for a liberal Democrat to succeed on domestic policy, he had to be hawkish on foreign policy. The president remembered the 1952 elections, when Republicans used the issues of the fall of China to communism, the efforts to root out communism within the United States, and the stalemate in Korea to take control of the White House and Congress. Johnson believed that what he called the “great beast” of the right was the real danger facing Democrats, and he never wanted to be outflanked by conservatives again. Adviser Jack Valenti later recalled that Johnson felt the
Perhaps the most shocking example of the connection between politics and foreign policy during Vietnam took place in the heat of the 1968 presidential campaign between Vice President Hubert Humphrey (Johnson had announced in March that he would not run for re-election) and former Vice President Richard Nixon. There is now strong evidence showing that people working for Nixon’s campaign sent signals, through the Republican activist Anna Chennault, to the South Vietnamese that the terms of a negotiated settlement would be better if Nixon won. Soon after Johnson had announced that there was to be a halt in the bombing, the Nixon people urged the South Vietnamese to hold off on agreeing to any deal, thereby extending the war.

After learning of these signals through FBI surveillance, Johnson told Sen. Minority Leader Everett Dirksen (known as the “Wizard of Ooze” for his long-winded and overly dramatic speeches) about what he had heard from the wiretaps. “I think that we’re skirting on dangerous ground,” Johnson told his old Senate colleague. “They oughtn’t to be doing this,” he said in frustration. “This is treason.” Johnson said he didn’t know exactly who was running the operation, but that “I know this: that they’re contacting a foreign power in the middle of a war.” Dirksen responded, “That’s a mistake!” Johnson said: “And it’s a damn bad mistake.” In the end, Johnson didn’t make this public, fearing the impact of revelations that he was spying on the Republican Party and that the information could cause great instability if Nixon won.

The connections between politics and foreign policy continue to this day. During his presidency, President Barack Obama has had trouble moving forward with a number of issues, such as closing Guantánamo, as he has faced fierce political pushback from Republicans and Democrats.
of being tagged as soft on terrorism. The president has had to navigate the threat of ISIS in a toxic political environment where Republicans continually charge that the administration is not doing enough to combat the threat.

Johnson did not take his critics very seriously, an important reminder that presidents must avoid creating an echo chamber in the Oval Office where opponents’ voices are not heard. Johnson dismissed the early college protests in 1965, saying that the threat was from the reactionary right. From a very early stage, Johnson heard doubts about the wisdom of the war and its necessity, even from conservative hawks like Georgia Sen. Richard Russell. When Russell expressed his views in May 1964 during a telephone conversation, Johnson didn’t disagree — but he didn’t expend much energy trying to find a way out of the situation. Russell warned: “It’s the damn worse mess that I ever saw .... I don’t see how we’re ever going to get out of it without fighting a major war with the Chinese and all of them down there in those rice paddies and jungles.” Johnson’s overriding instinct was still to keep getting the nation deeper and deeper into the conflict.

The quagmire of Vietnam undercut the ability of the United States to mount large-scale ground wars in the future.

After the 1964 Democratic landslide, Humphrey wrote Johnson an impassioned memorandum urging Johnson to get out of the war. He warned that the war would end up destroying the president’s domestic agenda. “Politically, it is always hard to cut losses,” Humphrey wrote. “But the Johnson administration is in a stronger position to do so than any administration in this century. Nineteen sixty-five is the year of minimum political risk for the Johnson Administration. Indeed, it is the first year when we can face the Vietnam problem without being preoccupied with the political repercussions from the Republican right.”

Johnson’s response was to kick Humphrey out of his inner circle of advisers. As the protests escalated on the college campuses and on the streets, Johnson became even more hardened, angry with the protesters and frustrated that they didn’t appreciate what he was doing. He came to perceive the anti-war movement as a movement of dangerous opponents, rather than voices that might guide him toward a better policy. He believed that the movement was undercutting his efforts to win the war and bring it to an end. Johnson told reporter Hugh Sidey, “I am worried about attempts to subvert the country. I am not a McCarthy [a reference to red-baiting Wisconsin Sen. Joseph McCarthy, who led the anti-communist crusade in the early 1950s], but I am concerned.” When Martin Luther King Jr. publicly turned against the war in April 1967, Johnson — who had worked closely with civil-rights leaders on some of the most important legislation of the day — was furious, and came to see King as an opponent rather than an ally.

The long-term impact of a failed war was devastating on multiple fronts — another lesson students glean from studying Vietnam and its aftermath. It would take decades to start getting over the war.

The quagmire of Vietnam undercut the ability of the United States to mount large-scale ground wars in the future.

In 1973 Congress dismantled the peacetime draft, which had been in place since World War II, replacing the system with a professional military. This made it harder for any president to mobilize the number of forces that had been used in World War II and in Vietnam.

The war also had  deepened undermined public confidence in what elected officials and military leaders said about military conflict — and about everything else. Polls show that it was in this period, before Richard Nixon’s Watergate scandal, that confidence in government started to decline. Too often during the 1960s the American people had heard lies, where public statements totally contradicted what was happening on the ground. The ability of the communist forces to mount the Tet Offensive in January 1968 was a devastating blow to Americans’ belief in public statements that victory was around the corner. CBS Evening News anchor Walter Cronkite, known as “the most trusted man in America,” jettisoned the norm of objectivity when he went on the air and said the war could not be won. “To say that we are closer to victory today is to believe, in the face of the evidence, the optimists who have been wrong in the past. To say that we are mired in stalemate,” Cronkite continued, “seems the only realistic, if unsatisfactory conclusion.” Upon seeing the broadcast, Johnson reportedly said: “If I’ve lost Cronkite, I’ve lost the country.”

Each time subsequent presidents tried to rally the nation behind a cause, there would be much more resistance to large-scale intervention. Public opinion tended to oppose the use of ground troops. The horrific attacks of 9/11 did significantly boost support for a military response, and skepticism from the Vietnam era seemed to be on hold as President George W. Bush put forward claims about Iraq’s possession of weapons of mass destruction. But even then, neither the Bush administration nor Congress believed there would be support for anything like reinstating the draft or launching a ground war on the scale and scope of Vietnam.

Today, 50 years since the acceleration of the war began, Vietnam remains a big topic in our discussions of modern American history. The war deeply impacted the 1960s and the decades that followed. It devastated the legacy of a president who had undertaken transformative policies on the homefront and permanently shaped the ways in which our nation thinks about decisions about war and peace. Yet not all of its legacy is bad. Many students walk away from these discussions with a willingness to have honest and open debates about the way in which we have handled international relations.

In many ways, the war in Vietnam never ended.

Yadin Kaufmann ’80 has invested in promising startup companies in Israel for the last 30 years. Recently, he noticed that there were several promising technology companies launched by Palestinians, but few ways for those entrepreneurs to work with mentors and develop their businesses. So last year he started the Palestinian Internship Program, which offers high-tech professionals the opportunity to polish their skills and expand their contacts by working for Israeli and multinational companies. The program — which started with eight interns, most of whom came from the West Bank — is the first to place Palestinians in internships with tech companies in Israel.

Kaufmann, a New Yorker who emigrated to Israel in 1985, worked for several years at Israel’s first venture-capital fund, Athena Venture Partners. He now runs Sadara Ventures, the first investment fund to focus on Palestinian technology companies, which he co-founded with a Palestinian partner, Saed Nashef. The firm is looking to cultivate “the WebMDs and the Booking.coms of the Mideast” and give Palestinian professionals the chance to build their businesses at home, rather than having to emigrate to tech sectors overseas, says Kaufmann, who lives near Tel Aviv with his wife, Lori Banov Kaufmann ’81.

“I noticed a lot of young Palestinians who went to university in the West Bank or Gaza had little opportunity to work in their fields and very little exposure to the tech world,” Kaufmann says. 

The Palestinian Internship Program is the first to place Palestinians in internships with tech companies in Israel.

Yadin Kaufmann ’80, left, runs Sadara Ventures, the first investment fund to focus on Palestinian technology companies, which he founded with a Palestinian partner, Saed Nashef.
significant companies in the technology world,” Kaufmann says, even though next door in Israel there are offices for hundreds of high-tech companies, including Google and Intel.

“If we can create entrepreneurs and jobs and a stake in the economy for talented, young people, that’s got to be a good thing.”

Intern Nadine Handal, who was placed with Intel in Jerusalem, appreciated the chance to have a “unique multicultural experience” that would help her build connections with high-tech professionals and learn problem-solving and innovative-thinking skills, she says. Handal was offered a position with Intel and plans to continue working for the company.

Some interns worried that as Palestinians working in Israel, they could face a backlash back home. MediSafe, a Haifa startup, brought aboard a 29-year-old computer science graduate from Hebron as an intern. While the arrangement worked professionally, the intern requested anonymity in news articles about the program and asked that his face be blurred in publicity photos.

“There is a fairly significant set of pressures against anything perceived to be normalization with Israel on the part of some people in the Palestinian community,” Kaufmann says. “I think that’s unfortunate.” Nonetheless, every member of the first class, which worked through the Gaza war, completed the 10-week internship.

Kaufmann is planning to host 20 interns next summer, and eventually would like to expand to 100. “It does Israel no good when people living a few kilometers away don’t have job prospects or hope in the future,” he says. “If we can create entrepreneurs and jobs and a stake in the economy for talented, young people, that’s got to be a good thing.”

Yuchen Zhang ’10 teams up with her mom to start a smoothie shop — and leaves consulting behind

When her grandmother was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in 2011, Yuchen Zhang ’10 made her hot soy-milk smoothies so Grandma Wang could easily get the nutrients she needed. Zhang was living in New York City, where she had moved after graduation to take a job at Deloitte Consulting.

A few months after her grandmother died, Zhang relocated to Deloitte’s Los Angeles office, drawn by her childhood fascination with Hollywood. Zhang loved the challenge of being a consultant, but she also dreamed of being an entrepreneur. After a few years at the firm, she saw an opportunity to embark on a new career: smoothie-shop owner.

Zhang convinced her mother to move from New Jersey to help her open Pulse Café in downtown Santa Monica in 2012. The café — which, in a shoutout to Princeton, is decorated with lots of orange — has eight small tables inside and three outside, and serves organic smoothies and other foods.

With just three employees, Zhang and her mother work seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. In the first few months, they changed the menu 40 times, experimenting and adjusting to their customers’ tastes. With little free time, Zhang finds that the main way she makes new friends is through the café. She does miss the intellectual aspects of consulting.

A mother-daughter enterprise poses challenges. The two are very close but sometimes have disagreements. “I am very analytical and logical,” Zhang says. “My mom goes with her passion.” Her mother usually gets her way, Zhang adds.

LIFE: 5 YEARS OUT...

By Louis Jacobson ’92

WATCH: A TEDx talk by Yadin Kaufmann ’80 at paw.princeton.edu

CELEBRITY SIGHTING:

Gwyneth Paltrow ordered a date smoothie with bananas and homemade almond milk.

Yuchen Zhang ’10, left, and her mother, Tanyue Chen, run a smoothie shop in downtown Santa Monica.

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Celebrity Sighting:

Actor Gwyneth Paltrow ordered a date smoothie with bananas and homemade almond milk.

Yuchen Zhang ’10, left, and her mother, Tanyue Chen, run a smoothie shop in downtown Santa Monica.

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Celebrity Sighting:

Actor Gwyneth Paltrow ordered a date smoothie with bananas and homemade almond milk.

Yuchen Zhang ’10, left, and her mother, Tanyue Chen, run a smoothie shop in downtown Santa Monica.
When the revolution erupted in Egypt in 2011, journalist Thanassis Cambanis ’00 knew he had to be there: “It was clearly a historical moment for the Arab world.” In *Once Upon a Revolution*, Cambanis tells the story of two ordinary Egyptians who threw themselves into overthrowing President Hosni Mubarak and championing democracy, in different ways.

Basem Kamel, a 40-year-old architect, had been working 16-hour days at his architecture firm. His father always had told him that political participation was a ticket to prison. But Kamel devoted himself to overturning the corrupt Egyptian political system. Described by Cambanis as “a study in steadiness,” he focused on working toward democratic elections rather than protest. He soon decided — with the grudging consent of his family — to run for Parliament, and won a seat.

Moaz Abdelkarim was a charismatic career activist who focused on street revolt. Having grown up in a family immersed in politics and Islam, the 26-year-old pharmacist was deeply committed to his ideals and faith. Though Abdelkarim had held leadership roles in the Muslim Brotherhood since high school, he defied his party to help establish a revolutionary group that advocated a secular state.

Cambanis writes about Abdelkarim and the Revolutionary Youth Coalition leading a protest when the new Parliament was sworn in early in 2012. They were surrounded by riot police, but the protesters failed to draw supporters. “It was such an encapsulation of the helplessness of this beautiful idealistic movement that was completely outgunned and wasn’t sure how to get where it wanted to go,” he says.

Cambanis developed a strong interest in the Middle East while covering the Iraq war for *The Boston Globe*. The fact that so many Egyptians upended their lives to pursue political reform was extraordinary, he says. Kamel continues his political work and will make another run for Parliament this year. Abdelkarim left Egypt to avoid arrest and lives in exile in Istanbul, but is reluctant to settle there. Says Cambanis, “He doesn’t want to admit that there’s a chance he won’t be able to go back home anytime soon.” ◆ By Tara Thean ’13

What he’s reading: *King Leopold’s Ghost*, by Adam Hochschild. “It’s an amazing, seminal book about the history of the slave trade in the Congo, a case study in the tenacity of vile systems in the face of idealistic pressure.”
I thought I knew where Princeton was when I arrived on move-in day in September 2002. Princeton was that collection of grand stone gothic buildings bunched together across the street from the fancy clothing stores on Nassau Street. As a child, I had visited the campus many times with my grandparents, who liked to eat at Alchemist & Barrister and take photos of me smiling in front of the “Oval with Points” sculpture. When I enrolled, I figured I’d be living near that landmark.

But on my first day as a student, I was directed down, down, down the sidewalk on University Place, past “the Wa” and across a street. Across a street! In my mind, the Princeton campus was fully contained inside a black gate with one entrance that would be bad luck to use as an exit. Why would anyone ever need to cross a street to get to a Princeton dorm? From the concrete walls of my tiny double in the dorm known as Forbes Addition, I had to wonder: Where is Princeton?

Forbes College was a world unto itself. We had a dining room overlooking a golf course, where we sledded in the winter and played Capture the Flag in the summer. It was known to have the best brunch of any residential college — and the closest-knit community. There was an “Ohhhh, you’re one of the Forbes people!” attitude among the denizens of more centrally located residential colleges.

At first, I hated the Forbes life. Because of the distance from the rest of campus and the effort it took to bike uphill toward Firestone Library and — heaven forbid — the engineering library, it became apparent that those who lived in Forbes tried not to stray too far. An old Halloween T-shirt in my drawer has a drawing of a gravestone that says, “Die for the Inn” and an arrow pointing away from it that says, “Forbes 10 mi.” I was jealous of those who got to live in a gothic playground, so I started eating at Mathey and Rocky. Years after graduation, there are still people who assume I lived in Mathey. It wasn’t until late into freshman spring that I began to embrace Forbes as my side of Princeton.

In the common area, I spent many laugh-out-loud nights playing a charades-like game called Salad Bowl. Weeks away from leaving for a semester abroad in Spain, I gathered around the piano with friends for a “Goodbye Liz” party for me and another Liz. Forbes had brought all of us together.

As an anthropology major, I might have observed that Forbes’ geographic containment leads its residents to become very close and to develop a strong sense of identity that lasts even through the upperclass years. Forbes is its own bubble inside a much larger orange one. When I meet alumni who have lived there, I feel we have a certain understanding.

Now I live in what I thought was Los Angeles but is actually Pasadena, which feels like one of 1,000 places that could be thought of as Los Angeles, but is far enough away from skyscrapers and the beach to be a separate pocket of existence. Who the Pasadenans are, I do not yet know. I only just arrived, once again dragging suitcases to an unknown community that, like Forbes, seems a little too far from the center, but one day might feel like home.
Online Class Notes are password protected. To access, alumni must use their TigerNet ID and password. Click here to log in: http://paw.princeton.edu/issues/2015/04/01/sections/class-notes/
MEMORIALS

PAW posts a list of recent alumni deaths at paw.princeton.edu. Go to “Web Exclusives” on PAW’s home page and click on the link “Recent Alumni Deaths.” The list is updated with each new issue.

THE CLASS OF 1943

Ralph Hallowell ‘43
Rafe prepared for Princeton at the Choate School, where he was on the football team and was managing editor of the Choate News.
At Princeton he majored in mechanical engineering and ate at Colonial. He was on the freshman football team and the 150-pound football team. He also was manager of the wrestling team and the express-reunion agency. His roommates included John Markham, John Bigelow, John Post, and Phil Quigg.
Rafe served with the U.S. Forestry Service during World War II as a conscientious objector. During his career as an industrial engineer, Rafe worked as project manager for Pennwalt Corp. and chief engineer for Stanley Flagg. He loved the outdoors and was a leading member of the Wilmington Trail Club and renowned for his kayaking ability. He was a member of the Falls Monthly Meeting of Friends and was active in supporting Quaker causes and perspectives.
He is survived by his wife, Jean; children Todd, Vickie, Kirk, and Brooke; 10 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Samuel C. Myer ‘43
He was born in California and spent his younger years there and in Maine. Sam prepared for Princeton at St. Paul’s School in Concord, N.H. As an undergraduate he majored in history and was a member of Cloister Inn.
Following graduation, Sam went into the Army and served as a paratrooper with the 101st Airborne Division. In 1946, Sam married Josefa Whitman in Bedford, N.Y.
After obtaining his MBA from New York University in 1949, he worked as a certified financial analyst for many premier investment-banking companies and savings banks.
Sam is survived by Josefa, daughters Georgia, Ginny, and Jody, and four grandchildren.

Albert H. Rees Jr. ‘43
He prepared for Princeton at the Lawrenceville School, where he was active in school publications, tennis, and dramatics.
At Princeton he majored in economics and played intramural and club sports.
He served in the Army and went on to graduate from Harvard Law School in 1949. After a few years in private practice, he became an attorney for the state of New Jersey, where he spent the majority of his career.
He is survived by his daughter Maria, granddaughters Lisa and Kristen, and grandson Mark. His wife, Maybelle, and daughter Helena predeceased him.

James Robinson ’43 ’48
He prepared for Princeton at the Lawrenceville School.
Jim majored in electrical engineering and was a founder of the Princeton Broadcasting Service. He was also a member of Theatre Intime and the Triangle Club. Jim served as reunion chairman from 1998 until his death.
In 1948, he earned his master’s degree in electrical engineering from Princeton. He served in the Navy on many electronic programs, including atomic-bomb testing in the South Pacific, cosmic-ray research in Colorado, and in the development of the YP-59, the first jet fighter.
Jim became the director of contract development for the Atomic Energy Commission. Later he worked for Applied Science Corp. of Princeton as director of research. Jim retired from McLean Engineering in 1985 after 29 years with the company.
His wife, Carol, predeceased him in 2011. Jim is survived by a sister-in-law and several nieces and nephews.

William P. Stevenson II ‘43
He prepared at the Lawrenceville School, where he was an editor of The Lawrence and a member of the tennis team. His brother, Walker, was a member of the Class of 1935 and his grandfather was in the Class of 1876. Bill majored in chemical engineering and was manager of the Travel Club and a member of Quadrangle Club.
After graduation, Bill joined the Navy, where his specialty training was in anti-submarine warfare and mine craft. He served in Africa, the Middle East, and in the Asia-Pacific campaign.
Bill had a 36-year career with DuPont Co. and was posted to many different places, including Dordrecht, The Netherlands; and Geneva, Switzerland, where he was director of physical distribution and employee relations for Europe.
Bill is survived by his wife of 64 years, Andree; his daughters, Wendy, Karen, and Andree; five grandchildren; and a great-grandchild. The class extends sympathy to them all.

THE CLASS OF 1944

Bruce P. Berlind ’47
Bruce died at his home Nov. 1, 2014.
He matriculated at Princeton in 1943, but his studies were interrupted by his service in the Army in World War II. He then returned to Princeton, graduating in 1948, and later acquired his master’s and Ph.D. degrees in English from Johns Hopkins University. His work was again put on hold while he served in the Korean War.
Bruce began teaching at Colgate University in 1954, where he specialized in modern American poetry. As chairman of the English department, he began the department’s visiting-writers series in the 1960s when he started hosting readings by American and British poets. He was known for his translations of Hungarian poetry. Bruce’s poems and translations were published in a variety of collections and literary journals.
Following his retirement in 1988, he continued his travels to Budapest over the next two decades to work with Hungarian poets. He and his wife, Jo Anne, took winter vacations to St. Martin and also would go abroad for a couple of weeks during the summer.
Bruce is survived by Jo Anne, three daughters, three sons, and 10 grandchildren.

Mark Pentecost Jr. ’47
Mark died Nov. 10, 2014, in Atlanta.
A fourth-generation Atlanta native, Mark prepped at the McCallie School and entered Princeton in 1943. After two years of Navy service, he graduated cum laude in 1948. Mark was a member of Cottage Club, played varsity soccer, and was business manager of The Daily Princetonian.

He prepared for Princeton at the Lawrenceville School, where he was active in school publications, tennis, and dramatics.
At Princeton he majored in economics and played intramural and club sports.
He served in the Army and went on to graduate from Harvard Law School in 1949. After a few years in private practice, he became an attorney for the state of New Jersey, where he spent the majority of his career.
He is survived by his daughter Maria, granddaughters Lisa and Kristen, and grandson Mark. His wife, Maybelle, and daughter Helena predeceased him.

James Robinson ’43 ’48
He prepared for Princeton at the Lawrenceville School.
Jim majored in electrical engineering and was a founder of the Princeton Broadcasting Service. He was also a member of Theatre Intime and the Triangle Club. Jim served as reunion chairman from 1998 until his death.
In 1948, he earned his master’s degree in electrical engineering from Princeton. He served in the Navy on many electronic programs, including atomic-bomb testing in the South Pacific, cosmic-ray research in Colorado, and in the development of the YP-59, the first jet fighter.
Jim became the director of contract development for the Atomic Energy Commission. Later he worked for Applied Science Corp. of Princeton as director of research. Jim retired from McLean Engineering in 1985 after 29 years with the company.
His wife, Carol, predeceased him in 2011. Jim is survived by a sister-in-law and several nieces and nephews.

William P. Stevenson II ‘43
He prepared at the Lawrenceville School, where he was an editor of The Lawrence and a member of the tennis team. His brother, Walker, was a member of the Class of 1935 and his grandfather was in the Class of 1876. Bill majored in chemical engineering and was manager of the Travel Club and a member of Quadrangle Club.
After graduation, Bill joined the Navy, where his specialty training was in anti-submarine warfare and mine craft. He served in Africa, the Middle East, and in the Asia-Pacific campaign.
Bill had a 36-year career with DuPont Co. and was posted to many different places, including Dordrecht, The Netherlands; and Geneva, Switzerland, where he was director of physical distribution and employee relations for Europe.
Bill is survived by his wife of 64 years, Andree; his daughters, Wendy, Karen, and Andree; five grandchildren; and a great-grandchild. The class extends sympathy to them all.
Princetonian.
He attended Emory University’s medical school, graduating in 1953, and did his residency at Johns Hopkins until 1958. During his 38 years of ob-gyn practice at Atlanta’s Piedmont Hospital, he served as the hospital’s foundation board chairman. He held board positions at Fayette County Hospital, A.G. Rhodes Health and Rehab, the Westminster Schools, the Atlanta Mission, and the Piedmont Driving Club. A lifetime member of the First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta, Mark served as deacon, ruling elder, and trustee.
Mark married Martha Mann in 1949. In memory of this accomplished classmate and servant to Atlanta, the class sends its memories of this accomplished classmate and one who gave him genuine satisfaction: Lou worked with families in crisis, in both court-appointed and in a private practice. He was the first shelter for abused women in the city’s situation and in a private practice. He was the director of the first shelter for abused women in Stamford, Conn.
Lou loved music, be it 20th-century classical, jazz, or Latin. He was a private person, but was ever interested in Princeton and the Class of 1949.
He leaves behind his wife, Linda; and three daughters, Anne, Elizabeth, and Eleanor. The class extends condolences to them all. His brother, Tallman ’41, predeceased him.

Harry R. Blynn ’49
Harry Blynn died Jan. 4, 2014, in Vero Beach, Fla. His wife of 36 years, Sydney, was by his side.
Harry grew up in Philadelphia, attended Chestnut Hill Academy, and graduated from Episcopal Academy. In April 1945, he enlisted in the Navy and served until July 1946, at which time he entered Princeton as a member of ’49. A psychology major, he served in our ROTC unit, was a member of Cap and Gown, and managed the rugby team.
Following graduation, Harry worked for Procter & Gamble and Sports Illustrated in New York City, and later on, for several advertising agencies in Philadelphia.
After his retirement, Harry moved to his second home in Vero Beach, where he and Sydney were active in their community. Although our class poll in 1950 had voted Harry our “biggest bluffer,” he proved us all wrong when he became the first member of the class to appear on the cover of LIFE magazine, tankard in hand, illustrating the joys of spring break in Bermuda. A class poll today would undoubtedly give him a more respectful title.
Harry is survived by Sydney, their eight children, and 17 grandchildren.

William D. Lamdin Jr. ’50
Born in Baltimore, he attended Gilman School. At Princeton, Bill majored in history and belonged to Tower. After graduation, he fostered his lifelong love of adventure and nature by working as a flagman in Wyoming and climbing in the Tetons. The draft cut this short. Bill was inducted into the Army, completed Officer Candidate School, and commanded an ambulance company in Korea as a second lieutenant.
He returned to Baltimore to earn a master’s degree from the University of Maryland School of Social Work in 1969. As he wrote, his “smartest move” was marrying Patricia Killough in 1955.
He was a social worker until 1971, when he and Pat loaded their family of six children, a dog, cats, and two ponies into two old trucks and journeyed to Meeteeetse, Wyo. There they bought a small ranch and named it “Two Cabin Ranch.” It served as their home, and in the summer as a camp for boys and girls.
Bill was a real estate agent for nearly 30 years before illness hospitalized him in 2008. He was an advocate of Wyoming’s natural beauty and fought to protect it from commercial intrusions.
Our condolences go to his survivors: his wife; two of her children; four of their children; nine grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Wayne F. Dimm ’50
A graduate of Exeter, he majored in economics at Princeton, was on the advertising staff of Tiger Magazine and belonged to Cloister Inn.
Wayne served in the Army, mostly in Germany with the Second Armored Division, before starting a long career with F. Schumacher and Co., a supplier of top-line materials for interior designers. He worked mostly in New York City, with early assignments in Miami and Los Angeles. Wayne met his wife, Peggy, in Los Angeles. They were married in 1959.
After he retired from Schumacher as vice president of marketing, Wayne divided his residency between Chatham and Palm Beach, Fla. It was in Palm Beach that he co-chaired our 19th mini-reunion in 2003.
Wayne was a member of several yacht clubs. He enjoyed clamming, boating, bridge, and croquet. He founded the Quason Croquet Club, which played in his backyard. He wrote at our 50th reunion that he took a trip abroad each spring or fall “to stay aware of the rest of the world.”
We extend our sympathy to Peggy; his daughter, Susan; son Wayne; and three grandchildren.

The Class of 1949
Louis G. Bissell Jr. ’49
Lou died July 7, 2014, at his home in Vernon, Conn.
He was born Dec. 2, 1927, in New York City, the son of Louis Bissell 1904 and Ethel Tallman, and came to Princeton from Exeter and Taft.
In college he majored in music, played varsity soccer, and belonged to Colonial Club and the film club. He served in the Army in 1946 and 1947.
Lou had several careers, starting with live television in the 1950s. He then went to Wall Street in the 1960s and worked as a broker. In the ’70s, he found his true vocation and the one that gave him genuine satisfaction: Lou worked with families in crisis, in both court-appointed situations and in a private practice. He was the director of the first shelter for abused women in Stamford, Conn.
Lou loved music, be it 20th-century classical, jazz, or Latin. He was a quiet and private person, but was ever interested in Princeton and the Class of 1949.
He leaves behind his wife, Linda; and three daughters, Anne, Elizabeth, and Eleanor. The class extends condolences to them all. His brother, Tallman ’41, predeceased him.

The Class of 1952
Robert B. Oakley ‘52
He came to Princeton from South Kent School. At Princeton, he joined the special program for the humanities, belonged to Quadrangle Club, and played club football and softball.
He attended Navy Officer Candidate School, served in Japan, then joined the Foreign Service. He met Phyllis Elliott, also a Foreign Service officer who, conforming to rules at that time, resigned to marry him in Cairo in 1958. She later rejoined the service and held distinguished posts in her own right.
Bob became one of the outstanding diplomats of our generation, serving in hotspots such as Khartoum, Abidjan, Saigon, Beirut, Paris, and also at the UN and in Washington. This was followed by ambassadorships in the Congo, Somalia,
and Pakistan, then two tours on the National Security Council staff, where he succeeded Hal Saunders ’52 in 1974 and returned under national security adviser Frank Carlucci ’52 in 1987.

After retiring in 1993, he obtained the release of an American pilot captured during the Black Hawk Down incident in Somalia.

Bob is survived by Phyllis; a son; a daughter; and five grandchildren, to whom the class sends sympathy.

Ralph K. Pfeiffer ’52
He graduated from Concordia Preparatory School in ’47 and then spent a year at the Lawrenceville School, where he was a class officer, before coming to Princeton. Ralph joined Tiger Inn and roomed with Pete Cowles, Walt O’Leary, Alden Dean, and Don Ewald.

He planned to major in modern languages, but left after sophomore year. He then graduated from U.S. Brewers Academy. Ralph went on to pursue a happy and successful career in sales with Foedert Malt Corp. and Hiram Walker, for which he worked in the Middle East and Japan.

In the Book of Our History, Ralph wrote a fond recollection of our classmate Tim Sick. With his wife, Irene, Ralph had three children, Susan, Ralph, and Peter. The class sends sympathy to them all.

William B. Purdy ’52
Bill died Nov. 26, 2014.
He graduated from the Lawrenceville School, and after Princeton, served in the Army in Korea. His career was in investment banking at White Weld and Paine Webber.

He retired in 1981 to Norfolk, Va., and from there pursued his favorite activities: traveling to Europe twice a year and, in the winter, to Grenada. In Norfolk, he belonged to the Yacht and Country Club and served on the board of directors of the Virginia Opera.

Bill leaves his sister, Nancy, to whom the class sends sympathy.

THE CLASS OF 1954
William B. Austin Jr. ’54
Bill died Nov. 27, 2014, from congestive heart failure, surrounded by his family.
Born in Upper Darby, Pa., Bill grew up in Ridgewood, N.J., and graduated from Ridgewood High School at Princeton, he was an economics major and a member of Cloister Inn.

After graduation, he served as a first lieutenant in the Army in Germany. After his discharge in 1956, he started his career in New York City in a bank training program. He was soon appointed vice president of Bankers Trust Co., where he worked until 1974.

He became president of South Shore Bank in Quincy, Mass., in 1973 and continued there until 1997. He was a managing agent at the Resolution Trust Corp. from 1989 to 1994.

Bill served on many boards, including the South Shore Chamber of Commerce, Quincy Neighborhood Housing, Quincy Mutual Fire Insurance, and Thayer Academy. He was an active member of the Episcopal parish of St. John the Evangelist and served on the vestry.

Bill was an amateur historian and geologist, a lover of bad puns, and an avid golfer. The class is honored by his service to our country and extends condolences to his wife, Donna; son Bennett; daughters Abby and Amy; and seven grandchildren.

THE CLASS OF 1955
Ross Dabney ’55
Ross was born in Dallas in 1934 to Crystal Ross and Lewis Meriwether Dabney Jr. ’21.
He died Nov. 1, 2014, in Easton, Md.

A Renaissance man, Ross graduated summa cum laude and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa at Princeton. He later earned a Ph.D. in English literature from Harvard. He taught English at Smith College, the University of Virginia, and Mount Holyoke College before going to Sweet Briar College, where he found great satisfaction in the students’ academic calibur.

A learned oenophile, he would press abandoned apples in his cider press to the delight of his children. Also a craftsman, he worked wonders with wood. Ross raced log canoes for 30 years and enjoyed his dogs and the outdoors. He played the lute and classical guitar, spoke several languages, and read prodigiously.

Until disease took his mind, he was always a teacher, showing his children how to find edible mushrooms, butcher a deer, sharpen a chainsaw, and read Blake.

He kept in touch with his students, loved books and history, and could recite pages of Chaucer, Hopkins, Yeats, and Blake. The cruelty of Alzheimer’s was particularly unfair to him.

Ross is survived by his wife of 54 years, Charlotte; their children, Susan ’84, Barbara, Joan, and Frances; 12 grandchildren; and his brother, Lewis M. Dabney III.

THE CLASS OF 1957
Paul A. Snook ’57
Paul loved music; it was the passion that framed his life. His French-born mother took him to movie musicals as a child, where he absorbed the soundtracks.
Later on, a music course at the Lawrenceville School enabled him to relate the harmonies and rhythms of contemporary pop composers with those of modern classical ones.

After graduating with an English degree, Paul moved to Manhattan, where he haunted Sam Goody’s and the Dayton music stores, meeting others who passed their music expertise on to him. Eventually, he amassed a modern music collection of more than 20,000 LP records that he donated to Columbia University, where he had earned a master’s degree in American literature.

Paul reviewed music for Fanfare and High Fidelity magazines. He worked briefly for our classmates Henry Bessire (arts fundraising) and Winston Kulok (Greenwich Village real estate). He most enjoyed music programming at a local radio station and selling records at a friend’s record shop. Paul held a civil-service position at the New York State Housing Department, from which he retired in 2008.

Thereafter, he traveled with his companion, Suzanne Schwartz.

Paul died Nov. 28, 2014. He leaves a daughter, Raven, to whom he gave “an insatiable love of movies, theater, music, and books,” and a granddaughter, Marlena.

THE CLASS OF 1963
Franz R. Buse ’63
He flourished for four decades as an executive specializing in food and consumer products south of the border and in the United States. In recent years, he was an eager volunteer at New Mexico’s Pecos National Historical Park, where excavations nearly a century ago brought nationwide attention to his grandfather, renowned archaeologist A.V. Kidder.

Raised in Guatemala City, Guatemala, he attended Noble and Greenough School in Massachusetts. He was Princeton’s freshman-soccer goalie, ate at Quad, and majored in Romance languages and literature.

In the 1970s, he was managing director at Quaker Oats in Brazil and ran the world’s largest sardine cannery. He then worked for Scott Paper in Mexico, leading the consumer-products division, and later worked in the U.S. as head of international business. In 1987, Rudy formed a management-consulting firm, doing business in Latin America.

“Rudy was very bright, charming, a worldly man who could handle himself in any situation and who brought joy to many people,” recalls high-school classmate Charles Castellani, who appointed Rudy best man at his 2013 wedding.

The class sends condolences to Rudy’s children, Barbara and David; his partner, Carolyn Hartley; former wife Martha; and three grandchildren.
Richard S. Morse Jr. ’63

Chip, a successful Boston attorney and a masterful blue-water sailor, was forever proud that his legal work helped young companies grow and create jobs in the Route 128 tech corridor. Such work thrilled him.

Chip died Dec. 15, 2014, on Cape Cod after battling lung and throat cancer.

After attending Noble and Greenough School with classmates Buse, Edwards, Chuck Henderson, and Mann, he majored in economics at Princeton. Chip helped lead the Keycept Program, joined Tower, and roomed with Collins, Helm, and Bob Lewis.

After graduation, Chip served as a communications and legal officer on a destroyer deployed to Vietnam. He attended Boston University Law School, and then rose to partner at Hutchins & Wheeler. In 1993 he co-founded Morse Barnes-Brown & Pendleton.

Retired at his home overlooking Quisset Harbor and Buzzards Bay in Woods Hole, Mass., he took intense interest in preservation as a board member of the Marine Biological Laboratory, Buzzards Bay Coalition, Quisset Harbor Preservation Trust, and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.

“I work mostly when I want to do things to improve our environment or our citizens’ lives,” he wrote in our 50th-reunion book.

The class shares its sorrow with Susan, his wife of 49 years; children Laura ’92 and Richard; and four grandchildren.

THE CLASS OF 1964

James A. Clarkson III ’64

Jim died of heart disease April 23, 2014, in Baltimore, surrounded by his family.

Born in New York City, Jim grew up in Riverside, Conn., and graduated cum laude from Choate. At Princeton, he majored in religion and joined Cap and Gown. Jim earned an MBA from Columbia in 1966 and a law degree from NYU in 1969.

Jim had a distinguished 41-year career with the Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington, D.C. He rose to become director of regional-office operations in the enforcement division, overseeing 11 agency offices. Jim traveled extensively for the SEC, providing enforcement training to securities regulators in Australia, China, Hong Kong, India, and Russia. He received the Distinguished Service Award, the SEC’s highest honor, and retired in 2010.

Jim was an avid hockey fan and 40-year Washington Capitals season-ticket holder. He loved spending leisure time on Chesapeake Bay, boating and crabbing with his family. He was a devoted family man whose greatest joy was being a father and grandfather.

Jim is survived by Jan, his wife of 46 years; son Blair; daughter Brooke ’03; brother Geofffrey; and two grandchildren, to whom the class extends sincere condolences.

THE CLASS OF 1966

Daniel H. Carmichael ’66

Dan died Dec. 11, 2014, from kidney cancer. The son of a physician, Dan came to Princeton from Fairfield High School, outside Birmingham, Ala., where he was a member of the swimming team, student council, and honor club.

At Princeton, Dan majored in religion with a philosophy bridge. He belonged to Charter Club and was a member of the freshman and varsity swimming teams.

After graduation, he earned a medical degree at Columbia University’s College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Following a surgical residency at Barnes Hospital in St. Louis and service in the Army Medical Corps, Dan established a surgical practice in Oklahoma City. His specialty was cancer surgery, and he devoted substantial time to cancer research, teaching medical students, and writing.

Later in his career, Dan spent about half his time on his ranch, where he enjoyed fishing, hunting, and hydrology projects. He also enjoyed woodworking and reading religion, history, and science.

Dan was preceded in death by his son, Patrick. He is survived by Walt, his wife of 46 years; and his daughters, Wendy and Shelley, and their families. The class extends its condolences to all of them.

THE CLASS OF 1968

Allen N. Grossman ’68

Skip died Dec. 3, 2014, from a heart attack at home in Poulsbo, Wash. He was 68.

He prepared at Kenmore West High School in Kenmore, N.Y., where he was editor-in-chief of the yearbook and was on the football and wrestling teams.

At Princeton, he majored in history, ate at Cottage, and played football. Skip earned his law degree from Harvard in 1971 and then served in the Army Quartermaster Corps.

He spent 10 years in private practice before moving to electronic publishing with Dow Jones for 21 years, where he led business development and helped build Factiva, a research tool. In 2003, he returned to private practice in Princeton, specializing in software licensing, estate planning, and a range of business representations.

Skip was very involved in community activities in Princeton. He spent 10 years on the public school board, seven years coaching soccer, and two years on the Council of the Princeton University Community. He remained a season-ticket holder of Tiger football and a devoted fan of soccer, basketball, wrestling, and lacrosse.

To Pam, his wife of 45 years; and their children, Steve and Betsy; the class extends its deepest sympathy.

THE CLASS OF 1970

Robert J. Philipp ’70


After Princeton, Bob worked for a year as a banker before entering the University of Wisconsin Law School.

All who knew Bob remarked that he was an extremely shy man. Nonetheless, he built a nationally respected practice specializing in securities law, regulatory, and tax matters. A devoted family man, he became a mentor to scores of others who valued his advice throughout their lives.

Bob traveled a lot as a young man and had a keen interest in history and English literature. He could take any side of an issue in discussion and acquit himself well and with good cheer. Once while on his way to visit a classmate in Tokyo, he stopped at the Peninsula Hotel in Hong Kong. His one-week stay turned into a free month after he befriended the hotel manager, whose only requirement was that Bob be available to share a glass and a conversation.
every night after dinner. When not traveling, Bob loved to cook and host dinner parties in Milwaukee, where he was an equally charming and stimulating host.

To his wife, Mary, and his daughter, Sarah, the class extends deepest condolences.

THE CLASS OF 1973
Timothy P. Cassidy ’73

Tim died Dec. 9, 2014, after a long illness.

He entered Princeton from Bethlehem (Pa.) Catholic High School, where he was a state wrestling champion. At Princeton, he won Cane Spree wrestling and was an outstanding hooker on the rugby team. After taking medical leave midway through junior year, Tim graduated with the Class of ’74 as a history major.

After graduation, Tim taught history and was the varsity wrestling coach at Parkland High School in Allentown, Pa. He then earned a master of fine arts degree from the New School in New York City and taught film and animation at Jersey City State College, NYU, and Passaic County Community College.

Tim also was an independent and freelance animator and filmmaker, as well as a talented blues guitarist and harmonica player. His bands included Swampedelica and Better Off Dead, and his gigs included our 50th reunion. He was also a longstanding member of the Bethlehem Hooligans Rugby Club and the New York Rugby Club.

Most importantly, Tim was a beloved friend. We all enjoyed his multi-dimensional talents, intelligence, creativity, wit, easygoing personality, and positive attitude. The class offers its condolences to Tim’s mother, Helen; his brother, Robert; the extended family, and his many friends.

THE CLASS OF 1980
Sylvère M. Hyacinthe ’80

Sylvere died May 3, 2014. She was from Bronxville, N.Y, and came to Princeton from the School of the Holy Child in Rye, N.Y., where she was valedictorian.

At Princeton, Sylvere majored in English. She was on the field hockey and track and field teams and served as an assistant editor of the Nassau Herald.

She earned a law degree at Columbia University and later received a master’s degree in public health from Columbia. Sylvere’s legal career began at IBM. She then practiced as a partner at Bower & Gardner in New York City, and later, at Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker in White Plains, N.Y. Sylvere had a distinguished career in medical-malpractice litigation.

She served on the board of directors of Legal Services of the Hudson Valley and was a trustee of the School of the Holy Child. She volunteered at My Sisters’ Place, an organization for victims of domestic violence in White Plains.

Sylvere had wit, a hearty laugh, a focused intelligence, and compassion. The class extends its deepest sympathy to Sylvere’s brothers, Maurice, Marcus, and Llewelyn; her sister, Genevieve; and her sisters-in-law, nieces, and nephews.

THE CLASS OF 1987
Bryan D. Rockwood ’87

Bryan died in a rock-climbing accident July 12, 2014, in Idyllwild, Calif.

He came to Princeton from Los Alamos High School in New Mexico. Bryan roomed in Forbes freshman and sophomore years with Jay Kern and junior and senior years with Chip Smith, Greg Van Horn, and Robert John. He majored in comparative literature and took his meals at Terrace.

Bryan was a devoted musician. As bass player in The Usual Suspects, he joined Pete Maruca, Jeff Gray, Tad Coburn, Tracy Ferrara, and Kim Carson in entertaining us at many Prospect Street parties. During his junior year, Bryan served as music director of Triangle Club.

His professional career included time with Investext, a division of Thomson Financial, where he was president of Thomson Financial Research. At the time of his death, he was working at Science Applications International Corp. in San Diego, having previously served as marketing director for the company’s security and transportation-technology business unit.

Bryan loved the outdoors, particularly the Canyonlands area of Utah, and was an avid rock climber and marathon runner, participating in the Boston Marathon in 2012. He was also a talented writer, having just completed his first novel.

The class sends sympathy to Bryan’s wife, Heidi; his daughter, Courtney; and his parents, Stephen Rockwood and Jane Andrews.

THE CLASS OF 2008
Kamara James ’08

Kamara, a former U.S. fencing Olympian, died Sept. 20, 2014, in Modesto, Calif. She was 29 years old.

Kamara was born in Kingston, Jamaica, and moved to New York City at age 10. She earned a full scholarship to Dwight School and then an academic scholarship to Princeton.

She earned a degree in religious studies from Princeton. Very notably, Kamara took a year off during her time at Princeton to represent Team USA as one of the youngest fencers at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens. She was the only U.S. women’s épée fencer to qualify for the games that year.

Friend and fellow fencer Soren Thompson ‘05 said, “Kamara was the one person I’ve known who I feel could have done anything, and it is remarkable how much she accomplished at such a young age. She reached seemingly impossible goals again and again. She was a skilled athlete and writer, a tenacious competitor, and immensely intelligent, driven, and beautiful.”

Our class is proud of Kamara’s accomplishments and expresses deep sympathy to her family and friends.

GRADUATE ALUMNI
Jacques R. Bélard *53

Jacques Bélard, retired professor of geology at the University of Montreal, died May 7, 2013, at the age of 90.

Born in Quebec, Canada, Bélard earned a bachelor’s degree in 1944 from the College of St. Anne de la Pocatière, and then bachelor’s and master’s degrees in geology from Laval University in 1948 and 1949, respectively. He was awarded a Ph.D. in geology from Princeton in 1953.

From 1952 to 1962, he was a senior geologist with the Quebec Department of Mines and Natural Resources, working in southern Quebec (Precambrian) and then in southeastern Quebec (Paleozoic).

In 1962, Bélard was appointed professor of geology at the University of Montreal, became chair of his department in 1966, and retired in 1989. He was an expert in understanding the stratigraphy, structure, and tectonic evolution of the Appalachian rocks of Quebec. His stimulating lectures encouraged many students to pursue geological careers.

Bélard is survived by Suzanne, his wife of 60 years.

William B. Carlin *56

William Carlin, music composer as well as a former administrator and board member of noted public-nature organizations, died May 11, 2014. He was 86.

After serving in the Army from 1946 to 1947, Carlin studied at University of California, Berkeley with the composer Roger Sessions, receiving a bachelor’s degree in music in 1952. He earned an MFA degree in music from Princeton in 1956.

Carlin was the director of the Third Street Music School in New York City, the nation’s oldest community school for the arts. He became director of development for the Nature Conservancy and later also for the World Wildlife Fund before retiring to his summer cottage in Niantic, Conn., and returning to writing music.

He was instrumental in turning his family’s farm into the Weir Farm National Historic Site in 1990, preserving the legacy of his grandfather, American Impressionist painter Julian Alden Weir. Carlin was a board member of the New York Botanical Garden, the Weir Farm Trust, and the Point Reyes National Seashore Association. He also served on the
performers worldwide. His work included contributions to the journal Perspectives of New Music, Journal of Music Theory, Music Review, and the Journal of the National Association for Music Education.

John M. Woodbridge *56
John Woodbridge, the architect who led the development of Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C., in the 1970s, died June 2, 2014, of a heart attack. He was 83.

Woodbridge graduated from Amherst College in 1951, and earned a MFA degree in architecture from Princeton in 1956. For 14 years, he worked in the San Francisco office of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM), where he was the designer for the Capitol Reflecting Pool and National Sculpture Garden in Washington as well as the Stanford Center for Research and Development in Education at Stanford University.

Woodbridge resigned as associate partner at SOM to head the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corp. (PADC) after Congress authorized its creation in 1972. Woodbridge led the effort to plan the Pennsylvania Avenue development between the Capitol and the White House. He left the PADC in 1977, after the plan’s completion.

After leaving the PADC, he returned to the San Francisco Bay area and served as a principal and consultant to several architecture firms there. In 1974, he was named a fellow of the American Institute of Architects.

Woodbridge is survived by poet Carolyn Kizer, whom he married in 1975; his two children from his first marriage, to Sally Woodbridge; and three stepchildren.

James K. Randall *58
James Randall, a pioneer in computer music and professor of music emeritus at Princeton, died of heart failure May 28, 2014. He was 84.

Randall graduated from Columbia in 1955, earned a master’s degree from Harvard in 1956, and then received an MFA degree in music from Princeton in 1958. He joined the Princeton faculty that year and retired in 1991. At Princeton, he taught courses in composition and theory, analysis, ensemble performance, and improvisation.

With other professors, Randall developed the Princeton Music IV Facility, a comprehensive music-production system involving an IBM supercomputer. According to the Princeton University Bulletin, this “led to the development of a highly flexible music-performing program, enabling musicians to design their own ‘instruments’ and assemble whatever ‘orchestra’ they needed for a given work.” His 1968 Lyric Variations for Violin and Computer is regarded as “one of the early masterpieces of the genre.”

Randall’s works for voice, instrumental ensembles, and computers have been

George T. Scanlon *59
George Scanlon, noted professor emeritus in the department of Arab and Islamic civilization at the American University in Cairo (AUC), died July 13, 2014. He was 88.

Scanlon earned a bachelor’s degree from Swarthmore in 1950. He had served in the Navy from 1943 to 1945, and then in the Naval Reserve from 1951 to 1953. He earned master’s and doctorates in 1957 and 1959, respectively, in Oriental languages and literature from Princeton. From 1957 to 1958, he was a Fulbright research fellow at AUC.

Thereafter, his academic affiliations included the University of Chicago, Berkeley, Harvard, Michigan, and Oxford. He returned to AUC in 1973 as a visiting professor of Islamic art and architecture and became tenured in 1975. He taught until he retired in 2011 at age 85.

A pillar of his department and AUC, Scanlon saw his students go on to successful careers worldwide. While he made contributions in his field of Islamic art and architecture, Scanlon is mainly remembered as the principal excavator (with W.B. Kubiak) of the archaeological site at Al-Fustat, the earliest Arab city-settlement in Egypt. Scanlon was the first non-Egyptian to work in Islamic archaeology in Egypt. In 1998, he was the first recipient of the Middle East Medievalists Lifetime Achievement Award.

Noel W. Hinners ’62
Noel Hinners, a geologist and soil scientist who guided NASA’s scientific probes deep into space, died of cancer Sept. 5, 2014. He was 78.

Hinners received a bachelor’s degree from Rutgers in 1958, a master’s degree from Caltech in 1960, and a Ph.D. in geology from Princeton in 1963. Before joining NASA in 1972 as director of lunar operations, he was with Bellcomm developing sites for the Apollo moon landings.

He helped plan the final Apollo missions and oversaw the design of scientific projects for most NASA space ventures into 1979, including the Skylab space station and the first unmanned missions to Saturn, Mars, and Venus.

In 1979, Hinners became the director of the Smithsonian’s National Air and Space Museum. In 1982, he returned to NASA as director of its Goddard Space Flight Center, and in 1987 he became NASA’s third-highest official, associate deputy administrator. Hinners joined Martin Marietta in 1989 as vice president for flight operations, including programs to explore Mars. He remained when the company merged with Lockheed, and retired in 2002.

He is survived by Diana, his wife of 52 years; two sons; and two grandchildren. A loyal Princetonian, Hinners served for the last eight years as planned-giving chair for the Graduate School.

Suzanne Tourtellotte ’71
Suzanne Tourtellotte, retired science professor at Albertus Magnus College in New Haven, Conn., and one of the pioneer women graduate students at Princeton, died June 20, 2013. She was 68.

Tourtellotte graduated with a bachelor’s degree from MIT in 1966, and received a master’s degree from Yale in 1967. She earned her doctorate in biochemistry from Princeton in 1971.

She became a member of the faculty at Albertus Magnus and retired from that college in 2008. At that point, she joined the department of astronomy at Yale as a research scientist. While at Yale, in 2010 she was a co-discoverer of the minor planet listed as 2010 EN65.

Tourtellotte is survived by her husband, George S. Rennie III.

Darryl J. Gless *75
Darryl Gless, the Roy C. Moore Distinguished Professor of Renaissance Studies in the department of English and comparative literature at the University of North Carolina (UNC) at Chapel Hill, died June 10, 2014. He was 68, and had suffered from myelofibrosis.

Gless graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1968, and was a Rhodes scholar at Oxford. In 1975, he earned a Ph.D. in English from Princeton. After teaching at the University of Virginia, he joined the faculty at UNC as an associate professor in 1980.

He received the University Tanner Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1983, and the Board of Governors’ Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2013. Achieving a full professorship at UNC in 1993, he became the Moose Professor in 2009.

Gless’ published works included books on Shakespeare and Edmund Spenser. Among his important administrative positions at UNC, he was chair of the English department and senior associate dean of arts and humanities.

As a defender of the humanities, in 1994 President Clinton appointed him to the National Council of the National Endowment for the Humanities, which he chaired from 1999 to 2002.

At the time of his death, Gless was survived by his wife, Friederike Seeger, who was pregnant with their daughter; and his mother, Vivian.

This issue has an undergraduate memorial for James Robinson ’43 ’48.

Graduate memorials are prepared by the APGA.
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The administration of Samuel Stanhope Smith 1769, our first alumnus-president, was fast crumbling in spring 1807. It was a sad outcome for the handsome intellectual whom George Washington once called the finest college president in the country.

Princeton graduates were needed to fill Presbyterian pulpits in the fast-growing South and West, yet few students seemed interested. Pious ministers on the board of trustees faulted Smith, 56, for being lax about discipline, tolerating sleigh-riding and pranks from “cracker-firing” to breaking windows. They thought America was at risk, with atheism seemingly on the march after the bloody revolution in France and the election of Thomas Jefferson to the White House.

Already Smith had aroused the trustees’ wrath by building a scientific curriculum. Now he buried himself in his study, revising his anthropological classic, *An Essay on the Causes of the Variety of Complexion and Figure in the Human Species*.

Smith burned to tell an important story: Contrary to recent heretical theories, blacks and whites were one species, created at one time by God, as Genesis tells. Blackness is caused — temporarily, he said — by climate and suffering. Inside we are basically alike.

Smith wrote that African Americans in pleasant Princeton town (where “the hardships of slavery are scarcely felt”) appeared more Caucasian with each passing generation. And a Native American student educated at the college had almost lost his high cheekbones by the time he left, thanks to residing “in the midst of civilized society.”

As Smith was theorizing in his study, the Riot of 1807 exploded at the start of April. A minor disciplinary infraction led to the barricading of Nassau Hall by students waving banisters broken from the staircases. Horrified trustees put in motion a plan to establish Princeton Theological Seminary, “uncontaminated by the college,” and the hapless Smith soon was forced out.

Two centuries later, the Center for African American Studies moved into Stanhope Hall, the building near Nassau Hall that honors Samuel Stanhope Smith, our once-famous scientist-president.
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